

THE
BOOK OF WORSHIP
FOR
THE REFORMED CHURCH
IN
THE UNITED STATES

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NEW LITURGY

At the meeting of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States held at Dayton, Ohio, in May 1917, it was resolved: "That a committee of nine be appointed, three representing the constituency of the Eastern Theological Seminary, three the constituency of the Central Seminary, and three the constituency of the Mission House; the Professor of Liturgics in each of these Seminaries to be a member of this committee, to prepare a new Liturgy in accordance with Reformed principles, and report to the next General Synod." The committee accordingly was constituted of those whose names are subscribed to this Report.

At the meeting of the General Synod held at Reading, Pa., in May 1920, a partial Report was submitted. The present Report, lacking a few minor details, is substantially complete, and is submitted to your reverend body with the hope that it may receive your approval and recommendation to the several Classes of which the General Synod is composed. The book is the product of much prayer and painstaking toil. Its preparation has involved the careful and unprejudiced study of all former Orders of Worship approved by our Church, as well as the comparative study of the various Liturgies now used by other Christian bodies. Its familiar tone gives proof of the retention of the essential features of our devotional heritage. The numerous changes which have been made, the committee believes to be fully justified by the enlarged needs and changed conditions of our time. The choice of alternates for the Lord's Day and Holy Communion Services, and the enlarged collection of Prayers for Special Occasions, it is hoped may satisfy the growing demand for greater flexibility in the use of forms for public worship. The many modifications of Forms hitherto used by our Churches are partly due to requests for revision which have come from various sources. Every suggestion which has come to the committee has received careful consideration. The committee is especially indebted to Rev. Prof. C. Ernest Wagner, former Professor of English Literature in Franklin and Marshall College, for his kind co-operation in revising and correcting the proofs. It is gratifying to state that the Report has the unanimous approval of the committee, and that at all its meetings, notwithstanding the occasional struggles of diverse and conflicting opinions, the spirit of unity, fairness and mutual regard was maintained inviolate.

In presenting this Report the committee cherishes the hope that by the unifying power of the Holy Spirit and through closer fellowship in the pure and reverent worship of the sanctuary, and in the faithful service of our Lord, we may all come to share more fully in receiving and extending the blessings of His kingdom.

Committee,

JOHN C. BOWMAN,
A. M. GLUCK,
JAMES I. GOOD,
CHARLES E. MILLER,
E. A. HOFER,
C. F. KRIETE,
JOHN W. APPLE,
D. I. PRUGH,
F. J. BRANDT.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

For the year ending 31st March 1900. The Commission has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Surveyor-General of the Land Office, and to forward the same to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and to the Secretary of State for the Home Office, for their consideration.

The Commission has also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Surveyor-General of the Land Office, and to forward the same to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and to the Secretary of State for the Home Office, for their consideration.

THE LORD'S DAY SERVICE

Having taken his place, the congregation also standing, the minister shall begin the Service with this Sentence of Scripture:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved in the Lord: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us therefore humble ourselves before the throne of Almighty God, our heavenly Father, and confess our manifold sins and transgressions with lowly and contrite hearts, that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Here all shall kneel and say:

Almighty and most merciful God, our heavenly Father, we cast ourselves down before Thee under a deep sense of our unworthiness and guilt. We have grievously sinned against Thee, in thought, in word, and in deed. We have come short of Thy glory. We have broken Thy commandments, and turned aside every one of us from the way of life. Yet now, O most merciful Father, hear us when we call upon Thee with penitent hearts; and for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us. Pardon our sins, and grant us Thy peace. Take away our guilt. Purify us, by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, from all inward uncleanness; and make us able and willing to serve Thee in newness of life, to the glory of Thy holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall stand and say:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who desireth not the death of the sinner, but rather that we may turn from his wickedness and live, and who gave His only Son, Jesus Christ, to be a sacrifice for the sins of the whole world; have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

The congregation shall now stand and sing the Gloria in Excelsis, or a Chant, or a Hymn.

M. Praise ye the Lord:

C. The Lord's name be praised.

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord; Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

The Scripture Lesson shall now be read, according to the order of the Church year, after which the congregation shall stand and sing the Canticle for the Day, or an appropriate Chant, or the Gloria Patri:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

Here the Apostles' Creed shall be recited:

I believe in God the Father Almighty: Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hades; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: the Holy Catholic Church; the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of Sins; the Resurrection of the Body; and the Life Everlasting. *Amen.*

The General Prayer shall now be offered, consisting of the Collect for the Day, the following Prayers, and any Special Prayers. On special days the Prayers for Special Occasions may take the place of the General Prayer. The foregoing order shall not preclude the use of Free Prayer.

M. The Lord be with you:

C. And with thy spirit.

M. Let us pray:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, Thine unworthy servants, do give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for all Thy goodness and loving kindness to us, and to all men. We praise Thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for Thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace,

and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech Thee, give us such due sense of all Thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may shew forth Thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to Thy service, and by walking before Thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

O Thou God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, cause Thy blessing, we beseech Thee, to rest upon the Church, which He has purchased with His most precious blood. Illuminate her ministers with true knowledge and understanding of Thy Word. Send down the healthful dew of Thy grace upon all her congregations. Deliver her from false doctrine, heresy and schism; and clothe her with the beauty of holiness and peace. Establish and reveal Thy glory among all nations. By the tranquil working of Thy perpetual providence, confound and destroy all wicked devices formed against Thy holy Word, and bring in speedily the full victory of Thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty God, King of kings and Lord of lords, from whom proceedeth all power and dominion in heaven and on earth; most heartily we beseech Thee to look with favor upon Thy servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this Commonwealth, and all others in authority. Imbue them with the spirit of wisdom, goodness, and truth; and so rule their hearts, and bless their endeavors, that law and order, justice and peace may everywhere prevail. Preserve us from public calamities; from pestilence and famine; from war, privy conspiracy,

and rebellion; but especially from national sins and corruption. Make us strong and great in the fear of God, and in the love of righteousness; so that being blessed of Thee, we may become a blessing to all nations, to the praise of the glory of Thy grace through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we implore Thy mercy in behalf of all classes and conditions of men; that it may please Thee to visit them with Thy most compassionate help, according to their manifold necessities and wants. Especially do we beseech Thee to have pity upon all widows and orphans; upon all prisoners and captives; upon all sick and dying persons; upon those who are desolate or sore afflicted in any way; and upon all such as are persecuted for righteousness' sake. Enable them to look unto Thee, O most merciful Father, and to call upon Thy name, that they may find Thee a present Saviour in their affliction and distress. And let it please Thee to deliver them, and raise them up in due time, giving them patience under all their sufferings, the rich comfort of Thy grace here below, and eternal rest with Thee in heaven; through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Here special prayers may be offered, followed by the Lord's Prayer, in which the people shall join aloud:

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. *Amen*

The Offering shall now be received, a Hymn sung, and the Sermon preached, after which the congregation shall stand and the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; accompany, we beseech Thee, with Thy heavenly benediction, the truth which has been preached unto us this day; that it may bring forth in our lives the peaceable fruits of righteousness, to the glory of Thy holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, who art the Author of peace and Lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; defend us, Thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in Thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of our glorious Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto Thee, and dost promise that where two or three are gathered together in Thy name, Thou wilt grant their requests; fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of Thy servants, as may be most expedient for them, granting us in this world knowledge of Thy truth, and in the world to come, life everlasting. *Amen*

Then a Hymn shall be sung, followed by the Doxology, after which the minister shall close the Service with this Benediction:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. *Amen.*

AN ORDER FOR MORNING AND EVENING SERVICE

Having taken his place, the congregation also standing, the minister shall begin the Service with one of the following Sentences of Scripture:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. *Amen.*

Grace be unto you, and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall say:

M. Let us pray:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our minds, we beseech Thee, by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that, being delivered from every unholy motion of the flesh and spirit, we may perfectly love Thee, with a pure heart and sanctified lips worship Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

The Responsive Reading.

Hymn.

The Scripture Lesson.

After the Lesson the congregation shall stand and sing the Canticle for the Day, or an appropriate Chant, or the Gloria Patri.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

The Apostles' Creed.

Then the General Prayer shall be offered, consisting of the following Prayers, or some other suitable Prayer, or a Free Prayer.

M. Let us pray:

We give thanks unto Thee, O God of our salvation, that Thou hast crowned our lives with Thy goodness, and that by Thy blessing, we, and all living things are nourished and sustained: especially for the gift of Thy dear Son, and for the revelation of Thy will and grace; and we beseech Thee so to implant Thy Word in us, that, in good and honest hearts, we may keep it, and bring forth fruit by patient continuance in well-doing; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, who hast promised to reveal Thy glory by Jesus Christ among all nations; remember, we beseech Thee, Thy holy Church throughout all the world. Unite all who profess and call themselves Christians in the bond of a holy faith as one body, and so replenish them and us with the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may bring forth abundantly the fruits of peace and good works. And grant that, having persevered in the way of godliness to the end, we may, with prophets, apostles, martyrs, confessors, and saints of all ages, come into full communion with Thee and with one another in Thine eternal and glorious kingdom; through the mediation of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Almighty God, King of kings, and Lord of lords, who alone ordainest the powers that be; take under Thy most gracious government and guidance, we beseech Thee, Thy servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this Commonwealth, and all others in authority; and so enrich them with heavenly wisdom and grace, that they may attain Thine everlasting favor, and we lead quiet and peaceable lives, in all godliness and honesty; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Most merciful God, who art a seasonable refuge in time of trouble; let the prayers of those who, in tribulation or any sort of extremity, cry unto Thee, reach Thy merciful ears, and grant them relief according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions; for the sake of the suffering and sorrow of Thy dear Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Here special prayers may be offered, followed by the Lord's Prayer.
in which the people shall join aloud:

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive
us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.
Amen.

Offering.

Hymn.

Sermon.

After the Sermon the congregation shall stand and the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

O God, who didst teach the hearts of Thy faithful people by sending unto them the light of Thy Holy Spirit; grant unto us by the same Spirit to have a right understanding of Thy saving truth. Visit, we pray Thee, this congregation with Thy love and favor. Enlighten our minds more and more with the light of the everlasting Gospel; fill our hearts with a love of the truth; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and of Thy great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

A Hymn shall now be sung, followed by the Doxology, after which the minister shall close the Service with one of the following Benedictions:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. *Amen.*

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee; the Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

A BRIEF ORDER OF SERVICE

The minister shall begin the Service with one of the following Sentences of Scripture:

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name: bring an offering and come into His courts: O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: fear before Him, all the earth.

God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him.

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you: where two or three are gathered together in My name, saith the Lord Jesus, there am I in the midst of them.

The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Our voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will we direct our prayer unto Thee, and will look up.

Abide with us, O Lord, for it is toward evening; and the day is far spent.

Then the Service shall proceed as follows:

Prayer. Hymn. The Scripture Reading. Gloria, or Hymn of Confession, or Kyrie. Prayer. Offering. Hymn. Sermon. Prayer. Hymn. Doxology.

The minister shall close the Service with one of the following Benedictions:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. *Amen.*

May grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour, and from the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, be with you all. *Amen.*

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. *Amen.*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God our Saviour, be honor and glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. *Amen.*

THE LITANY

To be said kneeling, instead of the General Prayer on days of penitence.

M. O God, the Father in heaven; have mercy upon us.

C. Have mercy upon us.

M. O God, the Son, Redeemer of the world; have mercy upon us.

C. Have mercy upon us.

M. O God, the Holy Ghost, the Comforter; have mercy upon us.

C. Have mercy upon us.

M. O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, ever one God; have mercy upon us.

C. Have mercy upon us.

M. Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers; spare us, good Lord, spare Thy people, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy most precious blood.

C. Spare us, good Lord..

M. From all evil and harm; from the power of sin, and the snares of the devil; from the spirit of the world, and from everlasting death.

C. Good Lord, deliver us.

M. From all blindness of heart; from pride, vain-glory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness.

C. Good Lord, deliver us.

M. From all impure lusts and desires; from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil.

C. Good Lord, deliver us.

M. From lightning, tempest, and earthquake; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from all disasters by land and by water; from battle, and murder, and a violent death.

C. Good Lord, deliver us.

M. From tumult and riot; from sedition and rebellion; from heresy and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of Thy Word and authority.

C. Good Lord, deliver us.

M. By the mystery of Thy holy incarnation; by Thy holy nativity and circumcision; by Thy baptism, fasting, and temptation.

C. Good Lord, deliver us.

M. By Thine agony and bloody sweat; by Thy cross and passion; by Thy precious death and burial; by Thy glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Ghost.

C. Good Lord, deliver us.

M. In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our wealth; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment.

C. Good Lord, deliver us.

M. We sinners do beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

C. Son of God, we beseech Thee to hear us.

M. That it may please Thee to keep us in all time of temptation and heaviness; to comfort and help all the weak-hearted; to raise up them that fall, and finally to beat down Satan under our feet.

C. We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

M. That it may please Thee to succor, help, and comfort all that are in danger, necessity, and tribulation.

C. We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

M. That it may please Thee to preserve all travellers and strangers, all women in the perils of child-birth, all sick persons, and young children, and to show Thy pity upon all prisoners and captives.

C. We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

M. That it may please Thee to defend and provide for the fatherless children, and widows, and all that are desolate and oppressed.

C. We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

M. That it may please Thee to have mercy upon all men.

C. We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

M. O Son of God, Redeemer of the world.

C. Have mercy upon us.

M. O Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world;

C. Have mercy upon us.

M. O Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world;

C. Grant us Thy peace.

O God, merciful Father, who despisest not the sighing of the contrite, nor rejectest the desire of the sorrowful; be favorable to our prayers which in our afflictions that continually oppress us, we pour out before Thee; and graciously hear them, that those things which the craft of the devil or man worketh against us, may be brought to naught, and by the counsel of Thy goodness be dispersed; so that being hurt by no persecutions, we may evermore give thanks unto Thee in Thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; give unto Thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey Thy commandments, and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may by Thy protection pass our time in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

THE PREPARATORY SERVICE

Having taken his place, the congregation also standing, the minister shall begin the Service with this Sentence of Scripture:

The Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him. *Amen.*

Then the Service shall proceed as follows:

M. God spake all these words, saying: I am the Lord thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. **I.** Thou shalt have no other gods before Me. **II.** Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My commandments. **III.** Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain. **IV.** Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. **V.** Honor

thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. VI. Thou shalt not kill. VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery. VIII. Thou shalt not steal. IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor. X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

C. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep all these laws.

M. Hear also what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Then the minister shall offer this Prayer, which may be followed by the Litany:

Let us pray:

O Lord God, who didst at the first deliver Thy commandments from the mount which burned with fire, amid blackness, and darkness, and tempest, at which terrible sight even Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake: we thank Thee that this same law is now published unto us from Mt. Zion, through the Mediator of a new and better covenant; and we humbly beseech Thee to put these words into our minds, and write them in our hearts, that we may delight in Thy law after the inward man, and serve Thee in newness of spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

The Offering shall now be received, a Hymn sung, and the Sermon preached, after which, the minister, addressing the communicants, shall say:

Beloved in the Lord: Our blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ, when He was about to finish the work of our redemption, by making Himself a sacrifice for our sins upon the cross, solemnly instituted the Holy Sacrament of His own Body and Blood, that it might be the abiding memorial of His precious death; the seal of His perpetual presence in the Church by the Holy Ghost; the mystical exhibition of His one offering of Himself made once, but of force always, to put away sin; the pledge of His undying love to His people; and the bond of His living union and fellowship with them to the end of time.

It has not been without reason, therefore, that the celebration of the Lord's Supper has ever been regarded by the Church as the inmost sanctuary of the whole Christian worship. We have to do here, not with outward signs merely, but with the heavenly realities themselves which these signs represent. Our Lord Himself calls the bread His body, and the cup His blood, or the New Testament in His blood.

Being of such a sacred nature it is plain that the table of the Lord can be rightly approached only by those who are of a truly devout, repentant, and believing mind. These holy mysteries are not for the wordly, the irreverent, or the indifferent. All who are impenitent and unbelieving, and who refuse to obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, have no right to partake of this table. They can do so only at their own peril; for coming to it thus in the spirit of hypocrisy and wickedness, they turn the blessing of the Sacrament into a curse, and that which should be a savor of life unto life is made to be for them only a savor of death unto death.

If any of you, then, are conscious that you are the willing servants of sin, being with repentance and faith, and yielding yourselves to the power of wordly affections and lusts, we solemnly warn and admonish you, that ye presume not, so long as this is your character, to come to the table of the Lord: for those doing so eat and drink judgment to themselves; not because they are sinners, but because they are impenitent sinners; not because they are unworthy, but because they eat and drink unworthily, not discerning the Lord's body.

On the other hand, we cordially invite to this table all who are truly grieved and penitent for their sins, who look to the Lord Jesus Christ for righteousness and salvation, who abide in the fellowship of His Church, and who earnestly desire to possess His Spirit and to walk in His steps. To all such the infinitely compassionate Redeemer Himself says: Come unto Me, all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Then, if the Confession is to be used, the minister shall continue thus:

Ye then, beloved brethren, who have looked earnestly into your own hearts, and who find in yourselves these good dispositions of penitence and faith, with the sincere desire and purpose of forsaking all sin and following after all Christian holiness, approach with me now to the throne of grace, and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Here all shall kneel and say:

O God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; we cast ourselves down at Thy feet with deep humiliation and heartfelt penitent grief,

in view of our manifold sins. We have sinned against Thee in thought, word, and deed; we have broken Thy holy laws; we have come short of Thy righteousness and glory, in all our ways; we have abused Thy mercies and made light of Thy judgments; we have turned aside from Thy covenant, and have not been faithful and diligent, as we ought to have been, in using the helps of Thy grace for our eternal salvation. Righteousness belongeth unto Thee, O Lord, but unto us only confusion of face; but unto Thee, O Lord our God, belong also mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against Thee; for Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive, and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee. Look upon us, therefore, O righteous and holy Father, with an eye of pity and compassion, as we now humble ourselves, with sincere confession, before the throne of Thy heavenly grace; and for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, speak pardon and peace to our souls. Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, according as we hope in Thee. And with the full pardon of our past sins, be pleased also to quicken us, we beseech Thee, in the way of righteousness, and uphold us with Thy free Spirit; that we may walk worthy henceforth of the vocation wherewith we are called, and ever hereafter serve and please Thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Thy holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall stand and say:

Hearken now unto the comforting assurance of the grace of God, promised in the Gospel to all that repent and believe. As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. God so loved the world that

He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Wherefore, beloved brethren, those of you who have truly turned to God with hearty repentance and sincere faith, may assuredly believe that your sins are forgiven in heaven, through the perfect sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Or, instead of the foregoing, the following may be used:

Wherefore, Dearly Beloved, that you may profess, as in the presence of God, your desire to approach the Lord's table worthily, give answer to the following questions:

M. Do you humbly acknowledge your manifold sins, heartily repent of them, and put all your trust in the mercy of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord?

Ans. I do.

M. Do you truly believe that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners; do you renew your faith in Him as your Lord and Saviour; and do you look to Him alone for forgiveness of sin, salvation, and eternal life?

Ans. I do.

M. Do you sincerely promise, henceforth, to be obedient to the Holy Spirit, so as to hate and forsake all manner of sin, to live as in God's presence, and to strive daily after holiness of heart and life?

Ans. I do.

Let us pray:

Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, whose nature it is to have mercy; now fulfil in every contrite heart the promise of redeeming grace; that being delivered from our sins, cleansed from an evil conscience, and strengthened by Thy Spirit, we may pass our days in the peace of a holy life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

The congregation shall now stand and sing the Doxology, after which the minister shall close the Service with this Benediction:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Sacrament of the Holy Communion shall be administered in every congregation at least twice a year, and, if possible, four times.

Having taken his place the congregation also standing, the minister shall begin the Service as follows:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

O taste and see that the Lord is good, blessed is the man that trusteth in Him; blessed are all they that keep His testimonies, and that seek Him with the whole heart.

Let us pray:

Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, who by the blood of Thy dear Son hast consecrated for us a new and living way into the holiest of all; cleanse our minds, we beseech Thee, by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we, Thy redeemed people, drawing near unto Thee in this Holy Supper, with a true heart and undefiled conscience, in full assurance of faith, may offer unto Thee an acceptable sacrifice in righteousness, and worthily magnify Thy great and glorious name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then a Hymn shall be sung, followed by the reading of a Lesson from the Holy Scriptures, after which the congregation shall stand and sing the Gloria Patri.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

Then, the Apostles' Creed shall be recited:

I believe in God the Father Almighty: Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hades; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Catholic Church; the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of Sins; the Resurrection of the Body; and the Life Everlasting. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall offer the Collect for the Day, the Festival Prayer, and the following Prayer:

Let us pray:

O God, merciful Father, vouchsafe unto us, we humbly beseech Thee, the continual help of Thy grace, that we may acknowledge and confess Thine incarnate Son as our true and only Lord and Saviour, and that receiving Him with childlike faith we may ever feed on His precious body and blood as the true meat and drink of our souls unto everlasting life. *Amen.*

The Service shall now proceed as follows: The Offering shall be received, a Hymn sung, and the Sermon preached. Then the minister, having uncovered the bread and the wine, shall address the communicants, saying:

Dearly Beloved in the Lord: All ye who do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, who are in love and charity with your neighbors, and who intend to lead a better life, by following the commandments of God and walking henceforth in His holy ways; draw near with reverence, faith, and thanksgiving, and take to your comfort the

Supper of the Lord. Let this bread and this wine be to you the signs and seals of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost. Before the throne of your heavenly Father make your humble confession of sin, consecrate your lives to Christian service, and pray for strength to do and to bear the holy and blessed will of God.

Here all shall kneel and say:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who dost admit Thy people unto such wonderful communion, that partaking of the Body and Blood of Thy dear Son, they should dwell in Him, and He in them; we draw nigh unto Thee under a humble sense of our unworthiness, acknowledging our manifold transgressions of Thy righteous law, in thought, in word, and in deed. We are deeply grieved, O Lord, for having offended against Thee; we condemn both ourselves and our sins with unfeigned penitence; for we have come short of Thy righteousness and glory in all our ways. But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us; for the sake of Jesus Christ, forgive us all our sins; purify us, by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, from all inward uncleanness; enable us heartily to forgive others, as we beseech Thee to forgive us; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please Thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Thy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall stand and say:

Hearken now unto the comforting words of our Lord Jesus Christ to all who truly turn to Him. Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not

His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved. Wherefore, beloved, I commend you to God and to the Word of His grace, which is able to build you up and grant you an inheritance among them that are sanctified forever.
Amen.

Then, the congregation standing, the minister and people shall say responsively:

- M. The Lord be with you:
C. And with thy spirit.
M. Lift up your hearts:
C. We lift them up unto the Lord.
M. Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God:
C. It is meet and right so to do.

Then the minister shall say:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O Lord our God, for all Thy mercies and favors to us, known and unknown.

But most of all, we praise Thee, the Father everlasting, for the gift of Thine adorable, true, and only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by His appearing hath abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. We bless Thee for His holy incarnation; for His life on earth; for His precious sufferings and death upon the cross; for His resurrection from the dead; and for His glorious ascension to Thy right hand. We bless Thee for the giving of the Holy Ghost; for the institution of the Church; for the means of grace; for the hope of everlasting life; and for the glory which shall be brought unto us at the coming and in the kingdom of Thy dear Son.

Thee, mighty God, heavenly King, we magnify and praise. With patriarchs and prophets, apostles and martyrs; with the holy Church throughout all the world; with the heavenly Jerusalem, the joyful assembly and congregation of the first-born on high; with the innumerable company of angels round about Thy throne, the heaven of heavens, and all the powers therein; we worship and adore Thy glorious name, joining in the song of the Cherubim and Seraphim:

Here all shall sing:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Then the minister shall say:

The Lord Jesus, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread [*here he shall take some of the bread into his hands*], and when He had given thanks, He brake it [*here he shall break the bread*], and said, Take, eat: this is My body which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of Me.

After the same manner also He took the cup [*here he shall take the cup into his hands*], when He had supped, saying, This cup is the New Testament in My blood; this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.

Let us pray:

Sanctify with Thy Spirit, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, these elements of bread and wine, that being set apart now from a common to a sacred and mystical use, they may exhibit and represent to us with true effect the

Body and Blood of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, so that in the use of them we may be made, through the power of the Holy Ghost, to partake really and truly of His blessed life, whereby only we can be saved from death, and raised to immortality at the last day. *Amen.*

And be pleased, now O most merciful Father, graciously to receive at our hands this memorial of the blessed sacrifice of Thy Son; in union with which we here offer and present unto Thee, O Lord, the reasonable sacrifice of our own persons; consecrating ourselves, on the altar of the Gospel, in soul and body, property and life, to Thy most blessed service and praise. Make us accepted in the Beloved; and let His name be as a pure and holy incense, through which all our worship may come up before Thee, as the odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God. *Amen.*

O God, who dost bless the unity of Thy people in the fellowship of service; manifest Thyself amongst us in the fulness of Thy love. Give us grace to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away from us all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord. In all our relations make us humble and meek, forbearing one another in love, and endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace. *Amen.*

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named; we rejoice before Thee in the blessed communion of all Thy saints, wherein Thou givest us also to have part. We praise Thee for the holy fellowship of patriarchs and prophets, apostles and martyrs, and the whole glorious company of the redeemed of all ages who have died in the Lord, and

now live with Him forevermore. We give thanks unto Thee for Thy great grace and many gifts bestowed on those who have thus gone before us in the way of salvation, and by whom we are now compassed about, in our Christian course, as a cloud of witnesses looking down upon us from the heavenly world. Enable us to follow their faith, that we may enter at death into their joy; and so abide with them in rest and peace, till both they and we shall reach our common consummation of redemption and bliss in the glorious resurrection of the last day. *Amen.*

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed by Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. *Amen.*

The Holy Communion shall now take place. After the singing of a sacramental Hymn, the people shall present themselves at the communion table, reverently and devoutly standing. The officiating minister shall first partake of the communion in both kinds himself, then administer it to his assistants, and then proceed with their help to administer it to the people, giving first the bread and then the wine. During the distribution, appropriate passages of Scripture may be recited. After the people assembled at the table have communed, the minister shall dismiss them with one of the following blessings:

May the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, keep and preserve you, each one, in body, soul, and spirit, unto everlasting life. *Amen.* Depart in peace.

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.* Depart in peace.

May grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and from the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, be with you all. *Amen.* Depart in peace.

When all have communed, the congregation shall stand and the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

Most gracious God, our heavenly Father, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift; we give Thee most hearty thanks for the great goodness Thou hast shown toward us at this time, in vouchsafing to feed us, through these sacred elements, with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of Thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are members of the mystical body of Thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and we most humbly beseech Thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with Thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as shall please Thee; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

Then a Hymn, or the Te Deum Laudamus, or the Doxology shall be sung:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Then the minister shall close the Service with this Benediction:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. *Amen.*

A BRIEF COMMUNION SERVICE

After the Sermon, the minister shall uncover the bread and wine, and address the communicants, saying:

Dearly Beloved in the Lord: God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. The more fully to show forth this promise of the Gospel, to seal unto us the remission of our sins, and to assure us of eternal life, He hath graciously added to that promise this blessed sacrament of the crucified body and shed blood of His dear Son, as the certain sign and covenant pledge of His abounding grace.

The Scripture warns all who live in sin not to profane this holy table. This, however, is not intended to exclude penitent persons, but only such as continue in sin without repentance. Wherefore, examine yourselves, to know whether you truly repent of your sins, and whether trusting in God's mercy and seeking your whole salvation in Jesus Christ, you are resolved to follow holiness and to live in peace and love with all men.

Another design of the holy Supper is that we may be knit together in true brotherly love as members of one body, for we, being incorporated with Christ by true faith, are through brotherly love to be as one body, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, who first loved us, that we might truly love one another.

Here the congregation shall rise and continue standing until the consecration is ended.

Let us pray:

Most holy and merciful God, our heavenly Father, we would on this solemn occasion draw nigh to Thee in remembrance of Thy Son.

We would remember, O Christ, the gracious beauty of Thy life, Thy obedience unto death, and Thy victory over the grave. Especially would we remember how Thou hast died on the cross for our sins and thus finished our salvation. Quicken our hearts by these blessed memories, O blessed Master, until we feel it no task to serve Thee, no burden to carry Thy cross, but a delight and a joy to do Thy will and work. As we thus remember Thee today, O feed us with the living bread, even Thyself. May our thoughts not cling to the bread and wine, but look beyond them to Thee, our Saviour and Lord. We would fain see Thee; take away everything that would keep us from Thee and Thee from us, and give us grace to realize Thy presence. By Thy Holy Spirit shed abroad Thy love in our hearts, and as a result of this communion, may we cheerfully take up our cross, deny ourselves, and ever keep in constant fellowship with Thee in all our life.

Grant this, we beseech Thee, O merciful Father, with the forgiveness of all our sins, for Christ our Redeemer's sake. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall proceed thus:

The Lord Jesus, the same night in which He was betrayed [*here he shall take some of the bread into his hands*], took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it [*here he shall break the bread*], and said, Take, eat, this is My Body which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me.

After the same manner also [*here he shall take the cup into his hands*], He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the New Testament in My blood; this do ye as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.

Here the minister shall offer the following Prayer, the people joining in the Lord's Prayer, after which the congregation shall be seated.

Let us pray:

Sanctify with Thy Spirit, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, these elements of bread and wine, that being set apart now from a common to a sacred and mystical use, they may exhibit and represent to us with true effect the body and blood of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, so that in the use of them we may be made, through the power of the Holy Ghost, to partake really and truly of His blessed life, whereby only we can be saved from death, and raised to immortality at the last day.

And be pleased now, O most merciful Father, graciously to receive at our hands this memorial of the blessed sacrifice of Thy Son; in union with which we here offer and present unto Thee, O Lord, the reasonable sacrifice of our own persons; consecrating ourselves, on the altar of the gospel, in soul and body, property and life, to Thy most blessed service and praise. Make us accepted in the Beloved; and let His name be as a pure and holy incense, through which all our worship may come up before Thee, as the odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well-pleasing to God.

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. *Amen.*

The minister shall now invite all Christian people to commune, then a Hymn shall be sung, and the bread and wine distributed. During the distribution appropriate passages of Scripture may be recited. Each table of communicants shall be dismissed with one of the following Blessings:

May the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, keep and preserve you each one in body, soul, and spirit, unto everlasting life. *Amen.* Depart in peace.

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.* Depart in peace.

May grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour, and from the Holy Ghost the Comforter, be with you all. *Amen.* Depart in peace.

When all have communed, the congregation shall stand and the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

Almighty and most merciful God, our heavenly Father, who hast called us to sit in heavenly places at this feast of love; we give Thee hearty thanks for the privilege and blessing of another sacred communion. Grant, we beseech Thee, that by Thy Spirit we may so partake of the life and Spirit of our divine Master, that He may live in us and we in Him. We pray Thee for a blessing, not only on ourselves, but upon our brethren who are absent from this communion table, especially those who are absent by reason of sickness, or infirmity, or calamity; and may the sweet peace of God which has come to our souls here, come also to them. Remember also, O Lord, all those with whom we are one this day, the great multitude of every name throughout the world who

are joined with us in one household of faith. We bless Thee for the noble example of those who have gone before us in the way of salvation and are now at rest with Thee. Make us one with them in the same holy fellowship. And we pray that as we have been partakers of Thy holy communion this day, so too we may all at last be prepared to share in eternal communion with Thee in Thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

A Hymn shall now be sung, followed by the Doxology, after which the minister shall close the Service with this Benediction:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE CHURCH YEAR

Here the Church Year follows. This consists of the Title, the references of the Scripture Lessons, and the Collect for each day, as in the Directory of Worship. Mark 1: 1-11 has been made the Gospel for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany; John 2: 1-11 has been made the Gospel for the Third Sunday; Matt. 8: 1-13 has been made the Gospel for the Fourth Sunday, thereby taking the place of Matt. 8: 23-27. Luke 15: 11-32 and Rom. 8: 1-11 have been made the Gospel and Epistle for the Fourth Sunday in Lent. Lessons and Collects have been provided for all the days of Holy Week. The period from Trinity Sunday to Advent has been made to consist of twenty-seven Sundays, and are named Sundays After Trinity. Only minor changes have been made in the Collects.

BAPTISM OF INFANTS

Children, one or both of whose parents are members of the Church, are entitled to Baptism.

Sponsors may be admitted in Baptism, but the parents themselves must be present and answer to the questions in the Service; a person, however, shall not be a sponsor who is not in full communion with the Church.

Members of the Church, when they are the rightful guardians of orphan children, may present them for Baptism, assuming the proper vows.

The minister shall begin the Service thus:

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. *Amen.*

Then, addressing the parents, or sponsors, or guardians, he shall say:

Dearly Beloved: Forasmuch as our Lord Jesus Christ has taught us that we are all sinful, and cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven, except we are born again by the Spirit of God; and has commanded us to make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever He has commanded; and has said: Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven; let us call upon God the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that of His bounteous mercy He may bless *this child* now to be consecrated to Him in holy Baptism.

Here the congregation shall rise and continue standing until the Baptism is ended.

Let us pray:

Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, who dost make and keep covenant with families, and dost include parents and children in Thy most gracious promises; we bring *this child* to Thee, assured that it is not Thy will that one of these little ones should perish. Look mercifully upon *him*, we beseech Thee, that coming to Thee in this sacred ordinance, *he* may find acceptance with Thee. By Thy Holy Spirit make this Baptism a sign and seal of the washing away of *his* sin, *his* engrafting into Christ, and *his* renewal in holiness, and may *he* ever live in the light of Thy holy Word. Grant that *his* name may be written in the Lamb's book of life, never to be blotted out. Bestow upon *him* the gift of Thy grace; and endue *him* with heavenly virtues; that being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, *he* may walk before Thee in the beauty of holiness all the days of *his life*, and come at last into Thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the minister, addressing the parents, or sponsors, or guardians, shall say:

Dearly Beloved: You have brought *this child* here to be baptized. We have prayed that our heavenly Father would receive *him*, deliver *him* from evil, engraft *him* into Christ, sanctify *him* with the Holy Ghost, and give to *him* the gift of eternal life. These benefits God, on His part, will most surely bestow, for the sake of His well-beloved Son, if you, on your part, who are responsible for *this child*, will do those things which God requires of you in vouchsafing His holy Baptism.

M. Do you accept the Sacrament of Baptism as the sign and seal of the covenant of God and therein dedicate *this child* to Him?

Ans. I do.

M. Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour?

Ans. I do.

M. Do you sincerely promise, by the grace of God and as much as lieth in you, to bring up *this child* in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and in the doctrines and duties of our Holy religion?

Ans. I do.

Name this child.

Thereupon, pronouncing the name, the minister shall baptize the child, saying:

I baptize thee into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

We receive *this child* into the congregation of Christ's flock, in the confidence that hereafter *he* will renounce all evil, confess Jesus Christ as *his* Lord and Saviour, and continue His faithful servant all the days of *his* life.

Here the minister shall offer this Prayer, after which the congregation shall be seated.

Let us pray:

We yield Thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased Thee to grant unto *this child* Thy holy Baptism, signifying thereby that Thou hast received *him* to be Thine own. Graciously sanctify *him* unto Thyself. Take *him*, we beseech Thee, into Thy fatherly care. Let Thy providence lead *him* through the dangers and temptations of *his* youth, and may *he* never wander from Thy ways. Grant that daily all carnal affections may die in *him*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*. Suffer *him* not to fall away from Thee, but grant that in due time *he* may

witness a good confession, and ever live according to Thy will. And, being kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, may *he* at last be presented faultless before the presence of Thy glory with exceeding joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the minister, addressing the parents, or sponsors, or guardians, shall say:

Dearly Beloved: Forasmuch as you have now dedicated *this child* by Baptism to the service of the Triune God, you must remember that it is your duty to train *him* up, by precept and example, in the true knowledge and fear of God according to the articles of the Christian faith and doctrine, as contained in the Bible, and in the symbols of the Church. Especially is it your duty to remind *him* often of *his* dedication to God in holy Baptism, and as soon as *he* shall be able to learn, to teach *him* the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, and the Ten Commandments, that *he* may know how to pray, what to believe, and how to live, ever remembering the promise of Thy holy Word, Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Finally you are to see to it that *he* be brought at the proper time to the minister, to be instructed in the Catechism, and prepared for Confirmation and the Holy Communion; that *he* may resolve to fight against sin and evil, profess Jesus Christ, and ever honor this profession by holy living and faithful service, to the glory of God and the salvation of *his soul*.

Ths minister shall close the Service thus:

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds, through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

BAPTISM OF ADULTS

Before adults are baptized the Spiritual Council shall be satisfied that they understand the fundamental truths of the Christian religion, and are willing to be governed by them in their lives.

Adults must be baptized publicly, either in the Church, or elsewhere, in the presence of a worshipping assembly; except in cases of extreme sickness, when the Sacrament may be administered privately in the home, one or more elders being present.

The minister shall unite the rite of Confirmation with their Baptism, by laying his hands on the head of the person baptized, and pronouncing the Blessing, as in Confirmation.

The minister shall begin the Service thus:

If any man would come after me, saith the Lord, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. *Amen.*

Then, addressing the person to be baptized, he shall say:

Dearly Beloved: That you may know and rightly understand, from God's holy Word, the meaning and importance of the Sacrament of Baptism, hear first what Jesus said to Nicodemus: Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Hear also the words of the institution of this Sacrament: And Jesus came and spake unto His disciples, saying, All power is given unto Me in heaven

and on earth. Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

Hence, St. Peter, on the day of Pentecost, after preaching the gospel of Christ's death and resurrection, called upon the hearers, saying: Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Here the congregation shall rise and continue standing until the Baptism is ended.

Let us pray:

Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, who art the Help of all those who flee unto Thee; we call upon Thee in behalf of *this* Thy *servant*, humbly beseeching Thee to admit *him* into the covenant of Thy grace. Receive *him*, O Lord, as Thou hast promised by Thy well-beloved Son, and confirm *his* faith in Thee. By Thy Holy Spirit make this Baptism a sign and seal of the washing away of *his* sin, *his* engrafting into Christ, and *his* renewal in holiness, and may *he* ever live in the light of Thy holy Word. Sanctify unto *him*, we humbly pray Thee, the holy impressions of this hour, that *he* may never lose sight of *his* Christian calling, but continue in the things *he* has learned of Thee. And grant, O most merciful Father, that being conformed to the image of Thy Son, *he* may ever serve Thee in newness of life, to the glory of Thy holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the minister, addressing the Candidate, shall say:

Dearly Beloved: You have come here to be baptized. We have prayed that our heavenly Father would receive you, deliver you from evil, engraft you into Christ, sanctify you with the Holy Ghost, and give to you the gift of eternal life. These benefits God, on His part, will most surely bestow, for the sake of His well-beloved Son: wherefore you, on your part, must do those things which God requires of you in vouchsafing His holy Baptism.

Here the minister shall ask the Candidate this question:

M. Do you now, in the presence of God and of this congregation, repent of all your sins; do you confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour; and do you promise to work for the upbuilding of the Church of Christ, by regularly attending its worship, by giving generously for the support of its activities, and by seeking to bring others to Christ?

Ans. I do.

Then the Candidate shall kneel, whereupon the minister, pronouncing his name, shall baptize him, saying:

I baptize thee into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall lay his hands on the head of the person baptized, and confirm him, saying:

The very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Here the minister shall offer this Prayer, after which the congregation shall be seated.

Let us pray:

We yield Thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that Thou hast bestowed Thy loving kindness upon this

Thy *servant*, and hast given *him* shelter within the covenant of Thy peace. Do Thou who givest power unto the faint enable *him* daily to perform *his* vows. May Thy fatherly love ever be over *him*; may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be multiplied towards *him*, that he always, having sufficiency in all things, may abound unto every good work; and may the Spirit of God rest upon *him*, to guide and comfort and sustain. Let *him* never grow weary in well-doing, but fight the good fight of faith, and lay hold on eternal life. Make *him* steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, and, having served *his* generation faithfully by the will of God, do Thou of Thy great mercy grant unto *him* an abundant entrance into Thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the newly confirmed member shall stand, while the minister greets him with these Words of Welcome, in connection with which he may give the right hand of fellowship.

In the name of this congregation I cordially welcome you into our fellowship, invite you to receive the Holy Communion, and to participate in all the privileges of Christ's Church.

The minister shall close the Service thus:

Now the God of peace fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

CONFIRMATION

It is the duty of the baptized children of the Church to become Catechumens as soon as they are old enough to be instructed in the Catechism. In no case should their attendance be delayed beyond their thirteenth year. Their Catechization looks forward to their Confirmation as its solemn completion.

Before Confirmation the Spiritual Council shall be satisfied that the Candidates understand the fundamental truths of the Christian religion and are willing to be governed by them in their lives.

Confirmation must be administered publicly, either in the Church, or elsewhere, in the presence of a worshipping assembly; except in cases of extreme sickness, when the Rite may be administered privately in the home, one or more Elders being present.

The minister shall begin the Service thus:

Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; saith the Lord, for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. *Amen.*

Then, addressing the persons to be confirmed, he shall say:

Dearly Beloved: Following the example of the holy Apostles, the Church bestows upon those who have been baptized, either as adults or in their infancy, after they have been properly instructed, the blessing of Confirmation by prayer and the laying on of hands.

The laying on of hands was first observed as a religious act by devout parents, whereby they imparted unto their children the parental blessing, and confirmed them in faith and piety. By the laying on of hands also those who were called to be public ministers in the Church were invested with the authority of the sacred office. And so also by the same solemn act the Apostles of our Lord

communicated the gift of the Holy Ghost for the confirmation of believers after their baptism.

In this sacred ordinance, you on your part confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, whilst the Church, in God's stead, claims you publicly for His service, blesses you in His name, and confirms you in His covenant, invoking upon you in larger measure the Holy Ghost, by whose help alone you are able to fulfil your vows by leading holy and obedient lives.

Here the congregation shall rise and continue standing until the Confirmation is ended.

Let us pray:

Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, who hast so loved the world as to give Thine only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life; we call upon Thee in behalf of *these Thy servants*, assured that Thou wilt graciously receive all who truly come to Thee. We thank Thee that by Thy Word and Spirit they have been led to the knowledge of Thy Son, and, being persuaded that there is salvation in none other, they desire to have part in the benefits of His one offering for sin. Accept, O Lord, these purposes of *their hearts*, and receive *them* into the communion of Thy Son. Take possession of *their hearts* by Thy Holy Spirit, we beseech Thee, and may the fruits thereof be seen in all *their* life. Ever work in *them* both to will and to do of Thy good pleasure; make *them* strong in faith, steadfast in hope, and fervent in love; and so guard *them*, O Thou tender Shepherd of our souls, through all the trials and temptations of this mortal life, that in the end they may safely arrive at Thy blessed fold. Grant this, we beseech Thee, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then, addressing the Catechumens, he shall say:

Dearly Beloved: As *children* of your heavenly Father, called with a holy calling, you are now to be received into full communion with the Church of Christ. We rejoice that He has called you to be His followers, that you have answered His call, and have come here to make public confession of your faith in Him. I, therefore, ask you:

Here the minister shall ask the Catechumens these questions:

M. Do you now, in the presence of God and of this congregation, renounce all evil, do you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, and do you promise to keep His commandments all the days of your life?

Ans. I do.

M. Profess now your faith before God and this congregation.

Ans. I believe in God the Father Almighty: Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hades; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: the Holy Catholic Church; the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of Sins; the Resurrection of the Body; and the Life Everlasting.

M. Do you promise to work for the upbuilding of the Church of Christ: by regularly attending its worship, by giving generously for the support of its activities, and by seeking to win others to Christ?

Ans. I do.

If any of the Catechumens have not been baptized, they shall now kneel, and the minister shall baptize them; then all the Catechumens shall kneel, whereupon the minister, laying His hands on the head of each one successively, shall pronounce one of the following Blessings:

The very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Defend, O Lord, this Thy child with Thy heavenly grace; that *he* may continue Thine forever; and daily increase in Thy Holy Spirit more and more; and come at last into Thy heavenly kingdom. *Amen.*

Living, live thou unto the Lord; dying, die thou unto the Lord; living, or dying, be thou evermore the Lord's.
Amen.

Here the minister shall offer this Prayer, after which the congregation shall be seated.

Let us pray:

We yield Thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, for the great goodness Thou hast been pleased to show toward *these Thy servants* by giving *them* power this day to own and accept for *themselves* Thy covenant of salvation, made with *them* before in the Sacrament of Baptism, and by confirming unto *them* at this time the same grace through the solemn benediction of Thy holy Church. And now, O Lord, we beseech Thee, perfect the good work which Thou hast begun in *them*, that *they* may ever live according to this beginning. Fortify *them* against the assaults of sin and hell. Let not Satan prevail against *them*. Keep *them* from the evil that is in the world. Help *them* to walk in the Spirit, that *they* may not fulfil the lusts of the flesh. Defend *them* from all heresy and schism, from all apostasy and unbelief. Let

them never draw back to perdition. Make *them* faithful unto death, that no man may take from *them* *their* crown. And grant, O most merciful Father, that having continued thus steadfast in faith and hope to the end, *they* may be counted worthy to be joined with Thy saints in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the newly confirmed members shall stand, while the minister greets them with these Words of Welcome, in connection with which he may give the right hand of fellowship:

In the name of this congregation I cordially welcome you into our fellowship, invite you to receive the Holy Communion, and to participate in all the privileges of Christ's Church.

The minister shall close the Service thus:

Now may the God of all grace, who has called you into His service and implanted the love of Himself in your hearts, sustain and further you in every good purpose, direct your thoughts in the ways of virtue and well-doing, and make you perfect in the day of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

RENEWAL OF PROFESSION OF FAITH

Persons who have allowed their church-membership to lapse can be restored to good standing by the renewal of their vows.

When an excommunicated person asks to be restored to the communion of the Church, the Spiritual Council shall make diligent inquiry as to his manner of life, and if he give sufficient evidence of being truly penitent, he shall be restored by the renewal of his vows.

In cases of extreme sickness this renewal of vows may take place privately in the home, one or more Elders being present.

The minister shall begin the Service thus:

What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all His people. *Amen.*

Then the minister, addressing the person to be received, shall say:

Dearly Beloved: In accordance with the Gospel the Church teaches that those who have allowed their membership to lapse can be restored to good standing by the renewal of their vows.

Return unto Me, saith the Lord, and I will return unto you. In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.

Let us therefore look to God for His blessing and guidance.

Here the congregation shall rise and continue standing until the Renewal is ended.

Let us pray:

Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, who art the Help of all those who flee unto Thee; we call upon Thee in behalf of *this* Thy *servant*, humbly beseeching Thee to restore *him* to the communion of Thy Son. O do Thou now speak pardon and peace to *his* soul, and give *him* an assured confidence of the forgiveness of all *his* sins. Restore unto *him* the joy of Thy salvation, and let Thy free Spirit uphold *him*, that he may walk in Thy ways steadfastly all the days of *his* life. Confirm *him* in *his* holy desires and purposes. And grant, most merciful Father, that being conformed to the image of Thy Son, *he* may love, honor, and obey Thee in all things, to the glory of Thy holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

M. Dearly Beloved: As *a child* of your heavenly Father, truly penitent, and desiring to be restored to the privileges and fellowship of the Church, I, therefore, ask you:

M. Do you now, in the presence of God and of this congregation, renew the holy vows assumed at the time of your reception into the Church; do you promise to be faithful in the use of the means of grace, and to submit yourself in all proper obedience to the government of this Church as becometh a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ?

Ans. I do.

M. On this renewal of your vows, you are now restored to the fellowship of the Church, and may the God of all grace confirm you therein, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Here the minister shall offer this Prayer, after which the congregation shall be seated.

Let us pray:

We yield Thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that Thou hast led *this* Thy *servant* to make this new confession of faith in Thy Son Jesus Christ, and to rededicate *himself* to Thy holy service. Strengthen *him*, we beseech Thee, through the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, and bestow up *him* the manifold gifts of Thy grace, that in all things *he* may faithfully serve Thee. Deliver *him* in the time of temptation. Help *him* to walk in newness of life and to hold this renewal of *his* confidence steadfast unto the end. And grant, most merciful Father, that having served *his* generation faithfully by the will of God, *he* may be counted worthy to have part with Thy saints in glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall give the newly received member the right hand of fellowship and say:

In the name of this congregation I cordially welcome you into our fellowship, invite you to receive the Holy Communion, and to participate in all the privileges of Christ's Church.

The minister shall close the Service thus:

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

MARRIAGE

Inasmuch as the laws respecting Marriage are different, in the several States, it is the duty of the minister to make himself acquainted with them, so as to act in conformity thereto.

Whether the ceremony take place at the church, or at the home, or elsewhere, it is of great importance that it be conducted with due solemnity.

During the Service the woman shall stand at the left hand of the man.

The minister shall begin the Service thus:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then, addressing the company, he shall say:

Dearly Beloved: We are assembled in the sight of God to join together this man and this woman in the bonds of Marriage, which is an honorable estate, instituted of God for the proper continuance and well-being of mankind, confirmed by the teaching of our blessed Saviour, and compared by St. Paul to the mystical union which subsists between Christ and His Church. Into this holy estate these two persons have come to be joined. Therefore, if any man can show any just cause why they may not be lawfully joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

Then, addressing the persons to be married, he shall say:

I charge you, each and both, before the great God the Searcher of all hearts, that if either of you know any reason why you may not be lawfully joined together in Marriage, confess it now: for be well assured that all those who are brought together contrary to the Word of God, are not joined together of God; neither is their Marriage lawful.

Then, if no impediment be alleged, he shall say:

As no one speaketh, let us call upon God the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that of His bounteous mercy He may bless this union now to be formed.

Then the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

O God, the Giver of all spiritual grace, who hast promised to hear us when we call upon Thee in the name of Thy dear Son; send Thy blessing, we beseech Thee, upon these Thy servants, that they may be truly joined together in the honorable estate of Marriage, in the covenant of their God. As they make their vows before Thee, sanctify them with Thy Spirit, we humbly pray Thee, that being enriched with all grace, they may enjoy the comforts, undergo the cares, endure the trials, and perform the duties of life together as becometh Christians, under Thy heavenly guidance and protection. Grant this, we beseech Thee, O heavenly Father, with the forgiveness of all our sins; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then, if the woman be given in marriage, the minister shall say:

M. Who giveth this woman to be married to this man?

Ans. I do.

Then, when the woman has been brought to the left hand of the man, the minister, calling the man by his name, shall ask him this question:

M. M., Wilt thou take this woman to be thy wife? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking every other, cleave to her only, so long as ye both shall live?

Ans. I will.

Then the minister, calling the woman by her name, shall ask her this question:

M. N., Wilt thou take this man to be thy husband? Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking every other, cleave to him only, so long as ye both shall live?

Ans. I will.

Then, if a ring is used, the man shall give the ring to the woman, which the minister receiving from her shall deliver again to the man, who shall then place it on the third finger of the woman's left hand, and holding it there, shall say after the minister:

With this ring I thee wed: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

As a seal of this holy vow give each other the right hand.

Then the minister, laying his hand on the joined hands of the pair, shall say:

Forasmuch as you, M. and N., have consented together in holy Marriage, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, I pronounce you husband and wife, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Those whom God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

Then the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom every family in heaven and earth is named; bestow upon these Thy servants the seal of Thine approval and Thy fatherly benediction, granting unto them grace to fulfil, with pure and steadfast affection, the vow and covenant between them made. Guide them, we beseech Thee, in

the way of righteousness and peace, that loving and serving Thee, with one heart and mind, all the days of their life, they may be abundantly enriched with the tokens of Thy favor. O Lord, bless them both, and grant them to inherit Thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the minister, in blessing the newly married persons, shall say:

God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with His favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. *Amen.*

The minister shall close the Service thus:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. *Amen.*

ORDINATION OF MINISTERS

After the Sermon, the Candidate for Ordination, his name being announced, shall be requested to present himself, whereupon the presiding minister, addressing the congregation, shall say:

Dearly Beloved in the Lord: Almighty God, whom it hath pleased by His Spirit and Word to gather and preserve to Himself continually, out of the whole human race, a Church chosen to everlasting life, hath given to all its members, both ministers and people, a common interest in its welfare. For this reason, it has ever been the practice, that in the ordination of those who have been called to the office of the holy ministry, the people also should have an opportunity to express their voice. Therefore, if any of you know any just cause why this brother ought not to be ordained to the Christian Ministry, come forward now and make it known.

If no objection be offered, after a sufficient pause, the congregation shall stand, and the presiding minister shall say:

Let us pray:

Meet us, O Lord, in all our doings, with Thy most gracious favor, and further us with Thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in Thee, we may glorify Thy holy name, and finally by Thy mercy attain unto everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the presiding minister shall address the Candidate and say:

Dearly Beloved Brother: It is our solemn duty, before proceeding to lay upon you the responsibility of the holy Ministry, to remind you of the sacredness of this office, and of the high spiritual character of the duties which it involves.

The office is of divine origin, proceeding directly from the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, as the fruit of His resurrection and triumphant ascension into heaven, and designed by Him to carry forward the purposes of His grace upon the earth in the salvation of men.

All power, we hear Him saying after He had risen from the dead, is given unto Me in heaven and on earth: Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

Consider well, dear brother in Christ, how much all this means, as declaring and setting forth the true nature and significance of the holy office. The first ministers were the Apostles, who were called and commissioned immediately by Jesus Christ Himself. They in turn ordained and set apart other suitable men, as pastors and teachers over the churches which they had gathered and established in different places. And these again, in the same way, appointed and sent forth others to carry forward the true succession of this office; which, being regularly transmitted in this way from age to age in the Church, has come down finally to our time. Ordination, therefore, is not merely an impressive ceremony, but a most solemn transaction, in which those who are ordained receive the sign of the acceptance of their consecration to the service of Christ, the seal of their divine calling, and the assurance of the support of the Holy Spirit in the faithful discharge of the duties of their office.

The Ministers of Christ are set in the world to be His representatives. To them it belongs to preach the Word, to baptize, to administer the holy Sacrament of the Lord's

Supper. They are appointed to serve the Church of Christ, to offer before Him the prayers and supplications of His people, to feed, to instruct, to watch over and guide the sheep and lambs of His flock. They are charged also with the government of the Church, and with the proper use of its discipline, to the preservation of order and the establishing of Christ's kingdom in the world.

Such being the character of the office to which you are now called, beloved brother in the Lord, you see with what great care and study you should constantly apply yourself in order to fulfil its sacred obligations. Know, at the same time, that for this you are by no means sufficient of yourself; all proper sufficiency here is from God alone, to whom therefore you should pray earnestly for the assistance of His grace. Give yourself wholly to this office, with daily prayer and study of the Scriptures, that you may be able to make full proof of your ministry, and show yourself a pattern to others in piety and godly living. In doing this you shall save both yourself and those who hear you; and when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, you shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

And now, that this congregation may understand your mind and will in these things, and that you may yourself also the more feel the binding force of what you thus publicly profess and promise, we call upon you to make answer to the following questions.

M. Are you truly persuaded in your heart that you are called of God to the holy Ministry; do you desire and expect to receive, through the laying on of our hands, authority for the sacred office; and do you trust in the grace of the Holy Spirit to aid you in fulfilling the duties of your high calling?

Ans. Such is my persuasion, and such my desire and hope.

M. Do you receive the holy Scriptures as being the true and proper Word of God, the ultimate rule and measure of the whole Christian faith?

Ans. I do.

M. Do you acknowledge the rightful authority of the Reformed Church, from which you are now to receive ordination, as being a true part in the succession of the Church Catholic; do you receive its doctrinal standards as being in harmony with the teachings of the Bible; and do you promise to exercise your ministry in it with faithful diligence, showing all proper regard for its laws and ordinances, and all suitable obedience to its lawful government in the Lord?

Ans. So I confess, and so I promise.

Here the Candidate shall kneel, then the ministers shall lay their right hands severally upon his head, and the presiding minister shall say:

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Chief Shepherd and Bishop of the Church, and trusting in the power of His grace, we ordain, consecrate, and appoint you to the office of the Christian Ministry: to proclaim His gospel, to dispense His holy Sacraments, to administer Christian discipline, and to be wholly set apart as an instrument for His use in the salvation of men; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, rest upon and abide with you always. *Amen.*

Then, the congregation standing, the presiding minister shall say:

Let us pray:

Most gracious God, our heavenly Father, who of Thine infinite goodness hast given Thine only Son Jesus Christ to be our Redeemer; send down, we beseech Thee, the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon the head of this Thy servant, now set apart, through the solemn act of ordination, to the office of the Christian Ministry. Grant unto him, O most merciful Father, such fulness of Thy grace, that he may be a faithful and wise steward whom Thou settest over Thy household, using the authority Thou givest him, not unto destruction, but unto salvation. Make him a true preacher of righteousness; a watchful guardian over the fold, and a follower of the true Shepherd who giveth His life for the sheep. May he be an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity, and may he in all things fulfil his ministry unblamably and unreprovably in Thy sight. And unto Thee, the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God our Saviour, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The newly ordained minister shall now stand, when the presiding minister shall give him the right hand of fellowship, saying:

We give you the right hand of fellowship, to take part with us in this ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When the new minister is to be installed at the same time as Pastor of the Charge, the Installation shall now go forward according to the form provided for that purpose; but if there be no Installation, the Doxology shall be sung, after which the presiding minister shall close the Service with this Benediction:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ: to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

INSTALLATION OF MINISTERS

After the Sermon, the Pastor-elect, his name being announced, shall be requested to present himself, whereupon the presiding minister, addressing the congregation, shall say:

Dearly Beloved in the Lord: You have called N. N., now present, and ordained minister, to become your pastor. He has consented to accept the call. After full inquiry and deliberation, the Classis of M., under whose supervision and care you stand, has resolved that the proposed pastoral relationship should be established; and being here accordingly, by its appointment and order, at the present time, for that purpose, we now proceed to institute and install him, in the name of the Lord, as the Pastor of this Charge.

Then, the congregation standing, the presiding minister shall say:

Let us pray:

O God, by whose holy inspiration and guidance Thine Apostles for the fulfilling of their charge, ordained others also, to take part in the care and government of Thy flock; let Thy blessing, we beseech Thee, rest upon the pastors of Thy Church, that in all things they may faithfully serve before Thee, to the glory of Thy holy name. Be pleased, also, to direct us in this solemn service, and let Thy blessing rest upon this Thy servant, whom we are about to install as pastor of this charge, that he may make full proof of his ministry, in the conversion of sinners and the upbuilding of Thy people in their most holy faith. Grant this, we beseech Thee, O merciful Father, for Christ our Redeemer's sake. *Amen.*

Here the following Selections of Scripture shall be read:

I am the good Shepherd, saith the Lord, the good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep. But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth; and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good Shepherd, and know My sheep, and am known of Mine. As the Father knoweth Me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice; and there shall be one fold, and one Shepherd.

Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me more than these? He saith unto Him, Yea, Lord; knowest that I love Thee. He saith unto him, Feed My lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me? He saith unto Him, Yea, Lord; Thou knowest that I love Thee. He saith unto him, Feed My sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me? Peter was grieved because He said unto him the third time, Lovest thou Me? and he said unto Him, Lord, Thou knowest all things; Thou knowest that I love Thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed My sheep.

And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you: and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the Word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation: Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever.

Obey them that the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

M. And now, beloved brother in Christ, do you promise and engage, on your part, that being set as Pastor of this people, you will endeavor faithfully to discharge among them all the duties of your ministry, exercising the authority you hold as a true commission from our Lord Jesus Christ, with becoming recollection of His presence, according to His commandment, and in due subjection to the rule that is over you in this Church?

Ans. I promise so to do, with God's help.

M. Dearly Beloved Brethren: You have heard the solemn promises made by him whom you have called to be your Pastor. Do you, now on your part, receive him in this character and office, promising to show towards him all proper love, honor, and obedience in the Lord, as are due to an overseer and guide placed over you by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, the Chief Shepherd and Bishop of souls?

Ans. We do.

Here the presiding minister shall install the Pastor-elect:

On the ground of this mutual agreement, we do now, by the authority which has been delegated to us for that purpose, solemnly install you, N. N., as Pastor of this people, committing them by this act as a part of Christ's flock, to your spiritual oversight and care; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Then, the congregation standing, the presiding minister shall say:

Let us pray:

Most gracious God, our heavenly Father, who art the Source of all our blessings, send down, we beseech Thee, Thy Holy Spirit upon this Thy servant who has been installed as Pastor of this charge; and so replenish him with Thy grace that he may show himself a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth. Do Thou, also, bless this people. Make them diligent and obedient hearers of Thy Word, active co-laborers with their Pastor in the furtherance of Thy cause, and fruitful in every good word and work. By Thy Holy Spirit sanctify the union now formed between Pastor and people, and grant that in all things they may faithfully work together in the building of Thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Following the Prayer, the Doxology shall be sung, after which the presiding minister shall close the Service with this Benediction:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ: to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

When the Officers of a Congregation have been elected, their names shall be publicly announced, and a time appointed for their Ordination and Installation.

When Elders only are to be set in office without Deacons, or Deacons only without Elders, such parts merely of the following form are to be used as relate to that particular case.

So also, if the case calls for Installation only, all the persons elected to office having been previously ordained, there must be a like omission of what forms the Ordination act.

After the Sermon, the persons to be set in office, their names being announced, shall be requested to present themselves; whereupon the minister, addressing the congregation, shall say:

Dearly Beloved in the Lord: *These persons have* been solemnly chosen and called by you, as a Christian congregation, to take part as *Elders* and *Deacons* in the care and service of this Church. *They* have accepted your call. No one has come forward to urge any just objection to *their* being set in office. I therefore proceed, in the name of the Lord, to ordain *those* who *have* not been previously ordained, and to set *all* of *them* apart, each in his own office, to the work of the ministry among you, and in your behalf.

Then, the congregation standing, he shall say:

Let us pray:

O God, who by Thy Holy Spirit has appointed diverse Orders of Ministers in Thy Church; set apart, we beseech Thee, *these Thy servants*, to the work whereunto Thou hast called *them* by the voice of this people. Bestow upon

them plenteously the aids of Thy heavenly grace, that *they* may be good *men*, full of the Holy Ghost and of wisdom, and in all things may *they* faithfully serve Thee. Grant this, we beseech Thee, O heavenly Father, for the love of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then, addressing the Candidates, he shall say:

Brethren: As it is a great honor to bear office in the Lord's house, so is it also a solemn trust, which no one should take upon himself rashly or lightly. For although your election has been by the free choice of your fellow members, yet the offices to which you have been called are not of human origin or authority, but were instituted by Christ Himself, who first called men, through the Apostles, to fill them, and has so preserved them in the Church to the present time. You are, therefore, not to regard *yourselves* as the mere *servants* of men, but as the *servants* of Christ, appointed in His name and by His authority to do the work intrusted to your care. From this you may see how much is comprehended in your present induction into office, and how needful it is that you should magnify your office, and make high account of its duties as a service to be rendered unto God, and not simply to men.

Elders are appointed to assist and support the Ministers of the Word in the general government of the Church. They form, with the Minister, in each particular charge, a council in common for the spiritual supervision of the flock which is committed to their care. They are bound to take part, accordingly, in the work of the Ministry, so far as it has to do with this pastoral oversight and care. They are to be the advisers and counsellors of the Minister in the discharge of his holy

office; they are to be to him as hands and eyes, acting with him and for him, and representing his presence throughout the congregation. It is their province to go before the flock in the way of Christian example, to watch over it in the Lord, to take an active interest in its spiritual welfare, to feel a responsibility for its condition, to be at hand in all circumstances with spiritual aid for its necessities and wants. It belongs to them, in virtue of their office, to visit the sick and the afflicted, to instruct the ignorant, to admonish such as are out of the way, to warn the unruly, to command and rebuke with authority in Christ's name. To them, moreover, in conjunction with the Pastor, belongs the whole discipline of the Church, its power of the keys, as exercised both in the form of censure and in the form of restoration.

Deacons are appointed to assist and support the Pastor in those ministrations which pertain to the more outward needs of the general household of faith. On them falls the honorable charge of caring for the poor and needy and of seeing that the charities of the Church are properly dispensed. They are to aid in securing the funds necessary for the support of the Church in its various activities. They are to labor among the people in making known to them the needs of the Church, fostering the principle of stewardship, and thereby cultivating the spirit of liberal and cheerful giving. In discharging these duties, however, they must not lose sight of the true spiritual character of their office, which, although it may be thus occupied with outward and temporal things, yet remains always a proper branch of the Christian Ministry, requiring virtues and merits of like sort with those which are needful for the office of the Ministry in its most exalted character.

And now, *brethren*, having well considered the nature and design of these sacred offices, to the use of which you have been called *respectively* by the voice of this congregation, do you accept the call as coming to you from God, and are you willing to undertake the work and service it sets before you, in the name and for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ?

Ans. Yes.

Do you receive the Holy Scriptures as being the true and proper Word of God, the ultimate rule and measure of the whole Christian faith?

Ans. Yes.

Do you promise to exercise your ministry, as *Elders* or *Deacons*, among this people, with faithful diligence, according to what you have now declared to be the rule and measure of your faith, showing all proper regard for the lawful authority of the Church, and taking heed to your own *lives*, that you may adorn the gospel of God our Saviour by a walk and conversation answerable to the place you occupy in Christ's house?

Ans. Yes.

Here those who have not been previously ordained to the office in which they are now called to serve, shall be directed to kneel, whereupon the minister shall proceed to ordain them, laying his right hand upon each one in succession, and saying:

Take thou authority to execute the office of — Elder — Deacon — in the Church of God, which office I now solemnly commit unto thee, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

The newly ordained persons shall now rise, after which the minister shall install all who are before him for this purpose, both those now ordained, and any who may have been ordained before, using the following form:

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the authority belonging to me in His Church, I now install you in the charge and service to which you have been called by this congregation; and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, rest upon you, abide with you, and strengthen you in your ministry always with all might through the Spirit unto every good word and work. *Amen.*

Then, the congregation standing, the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

O Lord, our heavenly Father, who has been pleased of Thy great goodness to call *these* Thy *servants* to office and power in Thy Church; send down upon *them*, we beseech Thee, the Holy Spirit, by whose most blessed inspiration alone *they* can be made able to fulfil the ministry now committed unto *them*. Make *them* wise and faithful, humble, tender, modest, and yet bold, constant, patient, and persevering in *their* appointed work. In all *their* walk and conversation may Thy precepts shine forth; may *they* hold the testimony of a good conscience, and prove *themselves* a good example unto all Thy flock, to the glory of Thy holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Following the Prayer, the Doxology shall be sung, after which the minister shall close the Service with this Benediction:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ: to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE VISITING OF THE SICK

It is the duty of the minister to be faithful in visiting the sick of his congregation.

If the sick person has not been baptized, he shall be immediately instructed as to his duty in this respect, and urge to enter into covenant with Christ. To this end the following passages of Scripture shall be explained to him: John 3:1-8; Math. 28:18-20; Math. 10:32-33. If the sick person gives evidence of faith, the minister shall baptize him, using the regular service for the Baptism of Adults, one or more Elders being present.

If, for any reason, the minister cannot perform this duty, one of the Elders shall attend to it for him.

The minister shall begin the Service thus:

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father,
and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall read a portion of the following Selections of Scripture:

WITH THE CHILDREN

Come, ye children, hearken unto Me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord. What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry. Psalm 34:11-15. At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto Him, and set him in the midst of them, and said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in My name receiveth Me. Math. 18:1-5. Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say

unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven. Matt. 18: 10. And they brought young children to Him, that He should touch them: and His disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And He took them up in His arms, put His hands upon them, and blessed them. Mark 10: 13-16. Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise: that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. Eph. 6: 1-3.

REPENTANCE OF SIN

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near: let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. Isa. 55: 6, 7. He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. Prov. 28: 13. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. Lam. 3: 22. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1: 8, 9. Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord; and I will not cause Mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the Lord, and I will not keep anger forever. Only acknowledge thine iniquity, that thou hast transgressed against the Lord thy God. Jer. 3: 12-13. Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. Mark 1: 14-15. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. Isa. 1: 18. Who is a God like unto Thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the

transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retaineth not His anger for ever, because He delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea. Micah 7: 18, 19. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3: 16. Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; Acts 3: 19. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4: 12. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. Rev. 22: 17. Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. Luke 15: 10.

FAITH

1.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee. Trust ye in the Lord forever: for in the Lord JEHOVAH is everlasting strength. Isa. 26: 3, 4. The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and He knoweth them that trust in Him. Nahum 1: 7. Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit. Jer. 17: 7 8. God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 1 John 4: 8-10. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Rom. 8: 31, 32. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine

own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths. Prov. 3:5, 6. Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid: for the Lord JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; He also is become my salvation. Sing unto the Lord; for He hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth. Isa. 12:2, 5. The Lord liveth; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted. Psalm 18:46. Know ye that the Lord He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves: we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations. Psalm 100:3, 4, 5.

2.

Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Isa. 53:4-6. But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that they might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. Gal. 4:4-7. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. 1 Tim. 1:15. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Rom.

8: 31-34. My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2: 1, 2. Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. Heb. 4: 14-16.

3.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. John 14: 1-3. If ye love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. John 14: 15-17. These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. John 14: 25, 26. Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; that being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3: 5-7. And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 2 Cor. 6: 16. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear: but ye

have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together. Rom. 8:14-17. Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Rom. 8:26. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. Gal. 5:22, 23. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thess. 5:23.

OBEDIENCE IN AFFLICTION

I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are right, and that Thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me. Psalm 119:75. Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty: for He maketh sore, and bindeth up: He woundeth, and His hands make whole. He shall deliver thee in six troubles: yea, in seven there shall no evil touch thee. Job 5:17-19. Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; by whom also we have access by faith unto this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. Rom. 5:1-5. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. 2 Cor. 4:5-7. I AM the true vine, and My Father is the husbandman. Every branch in Me that beareth not fruit He taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. John 15:1, 2. Now no chastening for the present seemeth

to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Heb. 12: 11. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose. Rom. 8: 28. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away. 1 Peter 1: 3-4.

FOR GENERAL USE

1.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. Psalm 23.

2.

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust. Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust: His truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall

thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and the adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him My salvation. Psalm 91.

3.

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord hath prepared His throne in the heavens; and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, ye His angels, that excel in strength, that do His commandments, hearkening unto the voice of His word. Bless ye the Lord, all ye His hosts; ye ministers of His, that do His pleasure. Bless the Lord, all His works in all places of His dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul. Psalm 103: 1-5; 19-22.

4.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto Him, Lord, we know not whither Thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me. If ye had known Me, ye should have known My Father also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him. John 14: 1-7.

5.

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Rom. 8: 1-6.

6.

Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and His love is perfected in us. Hereby know we that we dwell in Him, and He in us, because He hath given us of His Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth Him that begat loveth Him also that is begotten of Him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 1 John 3: 1-3; 4: 12-14; 5: 1-4.

7.

And He shewed me a pure river of water, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there

the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him: and they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever. Rev. 22: 1-5.

SUBMISSION IN AFFLICTION

In your patience possess ye your souls. Luke 21: 19. For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? Heb. 12: 6, 7. Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Heb. 10: 35-37. My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. James 1: 2-4. Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy. James 5: 10, 11. Our soul waiteth for the Lord: He is our Help and our Shield. For our heart shall rejoice in Him, because we have trusted in His holy name. Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we hope in Thee. Psalm 33: 20-22. Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all. Psalm 34: 19. The Lord sitteth upon the flood; yea, the Lord sitteth king for ever. Psalm 29: 10. Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partners of Christ's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. 1 Peter 4: 12, 13. Humble yourselves

therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you. 1 Peter 5: 2, 7.

TRUST

1.

Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of His servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? Let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God. Isa. 50: 10. Why are thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise Him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God. Psalm 42: 11. Consider and hear me, O Lord my God! Lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death; Psalm 13: 3. Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for Thou art my praise. Be not a terror unto me: Thou art my hope in the day of evil. Jer. 17: 14, 17. Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light. Math. 11: 29, 30. All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out. John 6: 37. But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and He that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art Mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour. I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for Mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins. Isa. 43: 1-3, 25. For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but My kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of My peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee. Isa. 54: 10. They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever. As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about His people from henceforth even for ever. Psalm 125: 1, 2.

2.

Wherefore, let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator. 1 Peter 4: 19. Turn Thee unto me, and have mercy upon me; for I am desolate and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged: O bring Thou me out of my distresses. Look upon mine affliction and my pain; and forgive all my sins. Psalm 25: 16-18. Have mercy upon me, O Lord; for I am weak: O Lord, heal me; for my bones are vexed. Return, O Lord, deliver my soul: Oh save me for Thy mercies' sake. Psalm 6: 2, 4. Shew Thy marvellous loving-kindness, O Thou that savest by Thy right hand them which put their trust in Thee from those that rise up against them. Keep me as the apple of the eye; hide me under the shadow of Thy wings. Psalm 17: 7, 8. The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: Deut. 33-27 a. O My Father, if it be possible let this cup pass from Me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou wilt. O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from Me, except I drink it, Thy will be done. Math. 26: 39, 42. I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are right, and that Thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me. Let, I pray Thee, Thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to Thy word unto Thy servant. Let Thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for Thy law is my delight. Psalm 119: 75-77. Shew me Thy ways, O Lord: teach me Thy paths. Lead me in Thy truth, and teach me: for Thou art the God of my salvation; on Thee do I wait all the day. Remember, O Lord, Thy tender mercies and Thy loving-kindnesses; for they have been ever of old. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to Thy mercy remember Thou me for Thy goodness' sake, O Lord. Psalm 25: 4-7. Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings: that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. Wherefore, let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator. 1 Peter 4: 12, 13, 19.

3.

I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me. Micah 7:7. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come unto Thee. Hide not Thy face from me in the day when I am in trouble; incline Thine ear unto me: in the day when I call answer me speedily. For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned as a hearth. My heart is smitten, and withered like grass; so that I forget to eat my bread. By reason of the voice of my groaning my bones cleave to my skin. Psalm 102:1-5. I stretch forth my hands unto Thee: my soul thirsteth after Thee, as a thirsty land. Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit faileth: hide not Thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Psalm 143:6, 7. I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears. Psalm 6:6. Make haste, O God, to deliver me; make haste to help me, O Lord. Let all those that seek Thee rejoice and be glad in Thee: and let such as love Thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified. But I am poor and needy; make haste to help me, O God: Thou art my help and deliverer; O Lord, make no tarrying. Psalm 70:1, 4, 5. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God. Hear me, O Lord: for Thy loving-kindness is good: turn unto me according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies. And hide not Thy face from Thy servant; for I am in trouble: hear me speedily. Draw nigh unto my soul and redeem it: deliver me because of mine enemies. Psalm 69:2, 3, 16-18. Remember me, O Lord, with the favor that Thou bearest unto Thy people: O visit me with Thy salvation; that I may see the good of Thy chosen, that I may rejoice in the gladness of Thy nation, that I may glory with Thine inheritance. Psalm 106:4, 5. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. 2 Cor. 4:17, 18.

THE CHRISTIAN'S HOPE

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. Psalm 55: 22. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee. Trust ye in the Lord forever: for in the Lord JEHOVAH is everlasting strength. Isa. 26: 3, 4. The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord. Psalm 27: 1, 14. For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk unrightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in Thee. Psalm 84: 11, 12. For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. Heb. 4: 15, 16. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. Gal. 6: 9. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him. James 1: 12. For His anger endureth but a moment; in His favour is life: weeping we endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. Psalm 30: 5. They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. Psalm 126: 5, 6. For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but My kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of My peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee. Isa. 54: 10. For we know that, if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 Cor. 5: 1. Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of Thy waterspouts: all Thy waves and Thy billows are gone over me. Yet the Lord will command His loving kindness in the daytime, and in the night His song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life. Psalm 42: 7, 8. Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. Rev. 2: 10.

WITH THE DYING

He asked life of Thee, and Thou gavest it him, even length of days for ever and ever. Psalm 21: 4. I have set the Lord always before me: because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. For Thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption. Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in Thy presence is fulness of joy; at Thy right hand are pleasures for evermore. Psalm 16: 8-11. Whom have I in heaven but Thee? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides Thee. My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion forever. Psalm 73: 25, 26. Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. John 14: 1-3. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in

Christ shall all be made alive. 1 Cor. 15: 19-22. Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. 1 John 3: 1, 2. Into Thine hand I commit my spirit: Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. O how great is Thy goodness, which Thou hast laid up for them that fear Thee; which Thou hast wrought for them that trust in Thee before the sons of men! Psalm 31: 5, 15, 19. This God is our God for ever and ever: He will be our guide even unto death. Psalm 48: 14. I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for Thou Lord, only makest me dwell in safety. Psalm 4: 8.

After the reading the minister shall offer Prayer, using, if he will, some of the following forms:

Let us pray :

Almighty and most merciful God, our heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being; we desire to acknowledge Thee in all the events that befall us. Thy right it is to do with us as Thou wilt, and never will Thy fatherly goodness suffer us to be troubled without cause: yet, remembering whereof we are made, and that we are but dust, chasten us not in Thy heavy displeasure, but as the children of Thy love. As we come to Thee pleading Thy promises, we pray that Thou wilt not leave us without the comforts of Thy grace and saving health, since we ask in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

A PRAYER FOR A SICK CHILD

Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, who lovest all little children; look down from heaven, we humbly beseech Thee, with the eyes of mercy upon this child, now lying upon a bed of sickness. Visit *him*, O Lord, with Thy salvation, deliver *him* from *his* bodily pain, and save *his* soul for Thy mercies' sake; that if it shall be Thy pleasure to prolong *his* days hereon earth, *he* may live to Thee, and be an instrument of Thy glory, by serving Thee faithfully, and doing good in *his* generation. But if it should be Thy will to call *him* hence, we know, O merciful God, that *he* is safe in Thy gracious keeping, and we pray that *his* soul may be forever Thine, in the blessedness of Thy heavenly kingdom; through infinite riches in Christ Jesus our Lord.

O God, merciful and gracious, who hast taught us in Thy holy Word to cast all our care upon Thee; relieve, we pray Thee, the anxiety of *these* Thy servants, the parents of this child: and, that they may trust *themselves* and

their dear child wholly unto Thee, teach *them* ever more and more to know the greatness of Thy love and sympathy and compassion, which Thou hast revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now, we beseech Thee, O Lord, bless Thy *servants* who are called to minister to this little sufferer. Give *them* grace to fulfil *their* task with patient endurance and with loving tenderness. Comfort *them* in *their* weariness with the comfort of Thy Holy Spirit, and may this season of trial, anxiety, and labor, in which *they* are sharing, help *them* forward in the way that leadeth unto life; for the sake of Him who died to save us from eternal death, Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

O most merciful God, who, according to the multitude of Thy mercies, dost so put away the sins of those who truly repent, that Thou rememberest them no more; open Thine eyes of mercy, we beseech Thee, upon this Thy servant, who most earnestly desires pardon and forgiveness. Renew in *him*, most loving Father, whatsoever has been impaired by the power of sin; preserve and continue *him* in the fellowship of the Church; consider *his* contrition, accept *his* tears, and assuage *his* pain, as shall seem to Thee most expedient for *him*. And inasmuch as *he* is putting *his* trust wholly in Thy mercy, impute not unto *him* *his* former sins, but strengthen *him* with Thy blessed Spirit, that *he* may live henceforth in the light of Thy holy Word. Hear us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, in these our prayers, as we call upon Thee in behalf of this Thy servant; and bestow upon *him* the help of Thy merciful consolation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

A GENERAL PRAYER FOR THE SICK

O God, in whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind; regard with tender compassion *this* Thy *servant* visited with bodily affliction and disease. Be graciously near to *him* in the hour of *his* need. Grant unto *him*, we beseech Thee, true repentance of all *his* sins, a firm and steady trust in the merits of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, and grace to be in perfect charity with all men. Enable *him* to cast all *his* cares on Thee, and to yield *himself* with childlike submission to Thy righteous and holy will.

Bless, we intreat Thee, the means being used for *his* recovery; rebuke the violence of disease; and raise *him* up from *his* bed of pain, that being delivered by Thy compassion, *he* may walk before Thee in newness of life, to the glory of Thy holy name.

(But if, O most wise and merciful Father, this sickness should be unto death, grant *him*, we humbly implore Thee, a comfortable release from all *his* sufferings. Let the arms of Thine everlasting love be around *him*, and, when flesh and heart shall fail, be Thou the strength of *his* heart and *his* portion forevermore.)

Above all things, O God, bestow upon *this* Thy *servant* those spiritual blessings which are better than life. Let this present affliction detach and purify *his* heart and make it meet for Thy dwelling place. Give *him* patience that *he* may bear pain and weakness bravely; enable *him* to abandon *himself* wholly to Thee and lie unreservedly in Thy hands; and fill *his* soul with visions of Thy heavenly kingdom; that so in the midst of the changes and chances of this mortal life *his* heart may surely there be fixed where alone are to be found true joys and everlasting peace.

Grant this, we beseech Thee, O merciful Father, with the forgiveness of all our sins; for Christ our Redeemer's sake. *Amen.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR RECOVERY

O God, the Giver of all spiritual grace, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift; we give Thee hearty thanks for the great goodness Thou hast shown unto us in granting unto this Thy servant a measure of *his* former health. Blessed be Thy Name that Thou didst not forsake *him* in *his* sickness; but didst visit *him* with comforts from above; didst support *him* in patience and submission to Thy will; and at last didst send *him* seasonable relief. Perfect, we beseech Thee, this Thy mercy towards *him*; and prosper the means which are being used for *his* recovery: that, being restored to health of body, vigor of mind, and cheerfulness of spirit, *he* may be able to go to Thine house, to offer there a sacrifice of thanksgiving with great gladness, and to bless Thy holy name for all Thy goodness towards *him*. May *he* live to love, honor, and obey Thee in all things, and so faithfully to accomplish Thy holy will in this world, that in the world to come *he* may have life everlasting. Accept, we beseech Thee, merciful Lord, the devout praises of Thy humble servant, and grant *him* an abiding sense of Thy loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

A PRAYER FOR A PERSON AT THE POINT OF DEATH

O Lord, our heavenly Father, whose tender mercies are over all Thy works; we come to Thee in behalf of this Thy servant, humbly beseeching Thee to have mercy upon *him* in this *his* time of need. We know, O Lord, that

nothing is impossible with Thee, and that, if Thou wilt, Thou canst even yet raise *him* up, and grant *him* a longer continuance amongst us. But if the time of *his* dissolution is drawing near, so fit and prepare *him*, we beseech Thee, for the hour of death, that after *his* departure hence in peace, he may be received into Thine everlasting kingdom; through infinite riches of grace in Christ Jesus our Lord.

O blessed Lord, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comforth; deal graciously, we beseech Thee, with this Thy suffering servant. Look upon *him* with the eyes of mercy; comfort *him* with a sense of Thy goodness; preserve *him* from the temptations of the enemy; give *him* patience under *his* affliction; and save *him* for Thy mercies' sake. O merciful God, who hast caused Thy holy Word to be written for our learning, that we, through patience and comfort of the Scriptures, might have hope; give unto Thy servant, we humbly pray Thee, a right understanding of Thy precious promises, that *he* may not cast away *his* confidence in Thee, but in all things cheerfully submit to Thy blessed will. Reveal Thy Son Jesus Christ in *his* heart as the Risen One who has conquered death, not for Himself alone, but for all the children of men. Take away from *him*, we beseech Thee O Lord, every fear of evil, grant *him* victory over every besetting doubt, and lift up the light of Thy countenance upon *him*, and give *him* peace: in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

O God, with whom do live the spirits of just men made perfect, we humbly commend this Thy servant, our departing *brother*; into Thy hands, as into the hands of a faithful Creator and most merciful Saviour; beseeching Thee that *his* soul may be precious in Thy sight. Wash *him*, we pray Thee, in the blood of that immaculate Lamb

that was slain to take away the sins of the world, that whatsoever defilements *he* may have contracted in this mortal life, being purged and done away, *he* may be presented pure and without spot before Thee. Vouchsafe to *him* a quiet passage; guide *him* through the valley of the shadow of death; and receive *him* into the arms of Thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of Thy chosen saints in heaven; for the sake of Him who died to save us from eternal death, Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. *Amen.*

The minister shall close the Service thus:

The Lord bless thee and keep thee: the Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

COMMUNION OF THE SICK

If any member of the Church, through sickness or infirmity, is not able to come to the house of God, and yet desires to receive the Communion, it may be administered to him privately.

The Sacrament may also be administered to sick persons who have not been communicants, provided they have proper views of its nature, right dispositions of heart, and are first baptized and confirmed.

In addition to the minister, one other person at least should commune with the sick, and one or more Elders ought to be present.

The minister shall begin the Service with this Sentence of Scripture.

Grace be unto you, and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Then the minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved in the Lord: Forasmuch as in the providence of God, you are deprived of the privilege of receiving the Holy Communion in the Church, and your heart nevertheless longs for the enjoyment of this blessing and grace, be encouraged and comforted by the words of the Lord Jesus: Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.

That you may not partake unworthily of this holy Sacrament, consider well, and lay rightly to heart, the exhortation and warning of the Apostle Paul: Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that Bread and drink of that Cup; for he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

Hear also how St. John encourages those who are truly penitent, saying: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from

all unrighteousness. And again it is written: If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thy heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Then the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

Most merciful God, our heavenly Father, who art the Help of all those who call upon Thee; look graciously, we beseech Thee, upon Thy servants who are about to seek Thy grace in this most sacred ordinance. Impart to us, we humbly pray Thee, a true and living faith, by which we may lay hold of the merits of Thy dear Son; and by Thy Holy Spirit more fully work in us an assured confidence that all our sins are forgiven, for the sake of His bitter sufferings and death upon the cross; so that, being crucified together with Christ, we may no longer live unto ourselves, but unto Him who for our sakes died and rose again. Bestow upon us, also, we beseech Thee, all needful grace, that we may wholly renounce the world, the flesh, and the devil, and steadfastly devote ourselves as living sacrifices of thankfulness to Him, so that we may patiently endure whatever trials may come upon us in this vale of tears, until we be received finally into the eternal blessedness of Thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then, if the elements have already been consecrated in the Church, the minister shall say:

The Lord Jesus, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat, this is My Body which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of Me.

After the same manner also, He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the New Testament in My Blood; this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.

If the elements have not been consecrated in the Church, the minister shall proceed to consecrate them, using this form.

The Lord Jesus, the same night in which He was betrayed *here he shall take some of the bread into his hands* took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it *here he shall break the bread* and said, Take, eat; this is My Body, which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of Me.

After the same manner also *here he shall take the cup into his hands* He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the New Testament in My Blood; this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.

Let us pray:

We do not come to this table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Thy manifold and great mercies: and we most humbly beseech Thee, O merciful Father, to vouchsafe unto us Thy gracious presence, and so to sanctify with Thy Word and Spirit these gifts now set before us, that in eating this bread and drinking this cup, we may become partakers of the body and blood of Thy dear Son, with all His benefits, to our spiritual nourishment and growth in grace; for the sake of Him who died to save us from eternal death, Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Here the Communion shall take place. The minister shall first commune himself, then give to those who commune with the sick, and then to the sick person. Then, when all have communed, the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

Most gracious God, our heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being; we give Thee hearty thanks for all the blessings we have this day received at the table of thy dear Son. Having received Jesus Christ afresh as our Lord and Saviour, may we be empowered to walk in Him; may we be rooted and built up in Him; and may we be established in the faith, as we have been taught, abounding therein with all thanksgiving. And grant that, when Thy purposes are accomplished in us here, an entrance may be ministered unto us abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Have compassion, we beseech Thee, O Lord, upon *this* Thy servant, that *he* may know that Thou art *his* refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Look upon *him* with the eyes of Thy mercy; comfort *him* with a sense of Thy goodness; defend *him* in all danger; give *him* patience under *his* affliction; and, in Thine own good time, restore *him* to health; or else give *him* the grace of submission to Thy blessed will. Grant this, we beseech Thee, O merciful God, for Jesus our Redeemer's sake.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is kingdom, and the power and the glory, for ever. *Amen.*

The minister shall close the Service with this Benediction:

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

On entering the church the minister shall go before the body and say:

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me, shall never die.

None of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that He might be Lord both of the dead and living.

And now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Then the minister, having taken his place, shall read a portion of the following Selections of Holy Scripture:

PSALM 90: 1-12

Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.

Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men.

For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up.

In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth.

For we are consumed by Thine anger, and by Thy wrath are we troubled.

Thou hast set our iniquities before Thee, our secret sins in the light of Thy countenance.

For all our days are passed away in Thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.

The days of our years are three score years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be four score years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

Who knoweth the power of Thine anger? even according to Thy fear, so is Thy wrath.

So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. If ye love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him: for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. John 14: 1-3; 15-17; 25-26.

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple: and He that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. Rev. 7: 9-17.

Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming. Then cometh the end, when He shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when He shall have put down all rule, and all authority and power. For He must reign till He hath put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For He hath put all things under His feet. But when He saith, All things are put under Him, it is manifest that He is excepted, which did put all

things under Him. And when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased Him, and to every seed his own body. All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption: it is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power: it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? the sting of death is sin; and the strength

of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Cor. 15: 20-28; 35-49; 50-58.

Here a Hymn shall be sung, then an Address may be delivered, after which Prayer shall be offered.

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, our heavenly Father, who art the Author and Disposer of our lives, from whom our spirits have come, and to whom they shall return; we acknowledge Thy sovereign power and right both to give and to take away, as seemeth good in Thy sight; and we most humbly beseech Thee, that unto all Thy righteous dealings we may yield ourselves with due resignation and patience, being assured that though we understand not the mystery of Thy ways, yet always in faithfulness, O Lord, dost Thou afflict us, and for Thy mercy's sake, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

O eternal God, with whom do live the spirits of those who depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity; we give Thee hearty thanks for the good examples of all those Thy servants, who, having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labors; and we beseech Thee, that we, with all those who are departed in the true faith of Thy holy name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in Thy eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

O Thou ever-blessed Mediator, who wast dead, but livest forever, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, and who hast knit all Thy saints in one communion unto life eternal, in that mystical body of

which Thou art the glorious and ever living Head; grant us grace so to follow Thy blessed saints, who have gone before us, in the faith and fellow-ship of Thy holy Church, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which Thou hast prepared for all that love Thee, from the foundation of the world. *Amen.*

O Holy and ever-blessed Spirit, who art one with the Father and the Son, and who dwellest in all Thy saints, to comfort and quicken them; comfort us, we beseech Thee, in the prospect of death, with the hope of the resurrection of the just, and abide in us, that these mortal bodies may be quickened, and fashioned like unto our Saviour's glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself. *Amen.*

Almighty and most merciful God, the Consolation of the sorrowful, and the Support of the weary, who dost not willingly grieve or afflict the children of men; look down in tender love and pity, we beseech Thee, upon Thy servants, the bereaved household, whose joy is turned into mourning: and according to the multitude of Thy mercies be pleased to uphold, strengthen, and comfort them, that they may not faint under Thy fatherly chastening, but find in Thee their strength and refuge; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. *Amen.*

At the grave, when the coffin has been put in its place, the minister shall say:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away.

I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.

The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

Let us pray:

Almighty God, who by the death of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, hast destroyed death; by His rest in the tomb hast sanctified the graves of the saints; and by His glorious resurrection hast brought life and immortality to light, so that all who die in Him abide in hope as to their bodies, and in joy as to their souls; receive, we beseech Thee, our unfeigned thanks for that victory over death and the grave which He has obtained for us and for all who sleep in Him; and keep us who are still in the body, in everlasting fellowship with all that wait for Thee on earth, and with all that are around Thee in heaven, in union with Him who is the Resurrection and the Life; who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God, in His wise providence, to take out of this world the soul of our deceased *brother*, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; in the

hope of the resurrection unto life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE BURIAL OF CHILDREN

At the grave, when the coffin has been put in its place, the minister shall say:

Man that is born of woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not. All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the field; the grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the Word of the Lord endureth forever.

Jesus saith, Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

Weep not, saith the Lord, the child is not dead, but sleepeth. If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.

Let us pray:

Almighty God, who by the death of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, hast destroyed death; by His rest in the tomb hast sanctified the graves of the saints; and by His glorious resurrection hast brought life and immortality to light, so that all who die in Him abide in hope as to their bodies and in joy as to their souls; receive, we beseech Thee, our unfeigned thanks for that victory over death and the grave which He has obtained for us and for all who sleep in Him; and keep us who are still in the body in everlasting fellowship with all that wait for Thee on earth and with all that are around Thee in heaven, in union with Him who is the Resurrection and the Life; who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

With resignation to the holy will of God and in humble reliance on His grace for strength to bear our sorrow, we commit this beloved form to its last resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; in the hope of the resurrection unto life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And they shall be Mine, saith the Lord: in that day when I make up My jewels.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work, to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A BURIAL SERVICE

At the grave, when the coffin has been put in its place, the minister shall say:

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

For the Lord will not cast off for ever; but though He cause grief, yet will He have compassion according to the multitude of His mercies. For He doth not willingly afflict nor grieve the children of men.

Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

Let us pray:

Almighty God, who by the death of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, has destroyed death; by His rest in the tomb hast sanctified the graves of the saints; and by His glorious resurrection hast brought life and immortality to light, so that all who die in Him abide in hope as to their bodies and in joy as to their souls; receive, we beseech Thee, our unfeigned thanks for that victory over death and the grave which He has obtained for us and for all who sleep in Him; and keep us who are still in the body in everlasting fellowship with all that wait for Thee on earth and with all that are around Thee in heaven, in union with Him who is the Resurrection and the Life; who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Forasmuch as the spirit of *this* our *brother* has returned to God who gave it, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust

to dust, humbly beseeching the Maker of us all to grant us grace so to live that when our last hour shall come, we may be found acceptable in His sight, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me, saith the Lord: and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

LAYING OF A CORNER STONE

The Service shall begin according to the order used on the Lord's Day.

Then the minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved Brethren: In all ages of the world the people of God have had their places of worship, consecrated to the Most High. Jacob erected a pillar in Bethel, saying, This is God's house. Moses built and consecrated a tabernacle in the wilderness. And Solomon built and consecrated a temple which the Lord filled with the glory of His presence before all the people. So you have purposed in your hearts to build here a house for the Lord: for the worship of His holy name, for the preaching of the holy gospel, and for the administration of His holy sacraments. And as we are now assembled to lay the corner stone of this house, as a habitation for the Lord of heaven and earth, let us not doubt that He will favorably regard and approve our holy purpose.

The Apostles' Creed

Here the minister shall read the inscription on the corner stone; then he shall proceed to put into it the several articles which it is to contain, naming them one by one as he does so; and then, when the stone has been laid in its place, he shall put his hand upon it, and say:

We here lay the corner stone of a house to be erected under the name of *here the name of the church shall be recited*, and to be devoted to the worship and service of Almighty God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

The Gloria Patri

Then the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

We yield Thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased Thee to put it into the hearts of Thy servants to begin the erection of a house in which Thy name is to be worshipped, the glad tidings of salvation proclaimed, and Thy holy sacraments administered. Prosper us, O Lord, in our undertaking; keep and preserve by Thy providence unto its completion the work which is now begun in Thy fear; and may this corner stone, here laid in Thy name, be the foundation of a true spiritual home for Thy children. Consecrate the skill and animate the industry of the workmen; shield them from all accidents and dangers; and make them sensible of the sacredness of the task in which they are engaged. Grant to us all Thy heavenly grace, that our gifts and all our services may be sanctified, and that we may become, in soul and body, living temples of the Holy Ghost, and so be prepared for that eternal city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. All which we ask in the name of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Service shall conclude according to the order used on the Lord's Day.

DEDICATION OF A CHURCH

The Service shall begin according to the order used on the Lord's Day.

Then the minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved in the Lord: God, our heavenly Father, in all ages of the Church, has approved the acts of devout and holy men, who, moved either by His express command, or by the inspiration of His Spirit, have erected sanctuaries for His worship, and separated them from common use, that they might be sacred places, wholly consecrated to Himself.

Animated by the pious example of those who have gone before us, sustained by the grace of God, and directed by His Spirit, we have built this house to the honor of His great name, and are now assembled before Him, that we may, by a solemn act of worship, devote it to its intended use.

Blessed be the Lord our God, who has thus enabled us to fulfil the desires of our hearts, in the building of this house, where His praise may be made honorable from generation to generation.

The Apostles' Creed

Then the minister shall dedicate the church in the following manner:

This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

This house, erected to the glory of God by the congregation here assembled, we now set it apart from all common and secular use, and, under the name of *here the name of the church shall be recited*, do hereby dedicate it

to the worship and service of Almighty God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest; Thou, and the ark of Thy strength.

The Seraphic Hymn

Then the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

O God, the King of kings and Lord of lords, whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain, much less the walls of temples made with hands; yet who delightest in the assemblage of Thy people in the sanctuary, and hast promised to bless them there; let Thine ears be open to the petitions of Thy children, which we now present unto Thee, in this place. Accept we beseech Thee, the offering of this house which we have builded as a habitation for Thee. May it be Thine and Thine alone, used only for Thy service, and so be in truth Thy sanctuary. Grant that all who shall enjoy the benefit of this work of piety and love, may show forth their thankfulness, by making a right use of it, to the glory of Thy holy name.

Now, therefore, arise, O Lord, and come into this place of Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy strength. Make this house a house of prayer for all people. Here let Thy presence dwell and Thy glory be revealed. When Thy children assemble for worship in this place, and make their petitions unto Thee, hear Thou from heaven, Thy dwelling, and when Thou hearest, forgive. When Thy holy Word is read and preached in this place, and the holy sacraments are administered, send down upon the congregation the dews of Thy heavenly grace. And when Thy people bring to Thee their thanksgivings for Thy gracious gifts, accept their offering, and bless them in it,

that their joy may be full. May all the promises and vows made in this place redound to the honor and glory of Thy name; and when Thy people pledge themselves to any service for Thee, anoint them with Thy Holy Spirit, that they may be able to accomplish the task which Thou givest them to do; yea, may everything that is done in this place be to the praise of the glory of Thy grace through Jesus Christ.

O God, the Father of mercies and Fountain of all good, who hast chosen Zion for Thy habitation; accept the gratitude of our hearts for Thy great goodness to us this day. Grant, O Lord, that the Gospel here proclaimed, may be rich in blessing to many hearts, and may the fruit be unto holiness and the end everlasting life. Enrich, we beseech Thee, this congregation of Thy people with Thy favor, and abundantly bless the pastor, the elders, the deacons, and all those who take part with them in the work and service of this Church. Endow them with spiritual gifts and graces; and grant that they may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all wisdom, that they may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ. And unto Thee who art able to do abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Thee be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. *Amen.*

The Service shall conclude according to the order used on the Lord's Day.

DEDICATION OF AN ORGAN

The Service shall begin according to the order used on the Lord's Day.

Then the minister shall say.

Dearly Beloved Brethren: In providing an organ for the worship of God in His sanctuary, you have acted in accordance with the best sentiment of the Church in all ages of the world; for music has always been the handmaid of religion. King David, the royal poet and psalmist of Israel, called upon his people, saying, Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary: praise Him in the firmament of His power: praise Him for His mighty acts: praise Him for His excellent greatness: praise Him with stringed instruments and organs: let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. When our Saviour was born in Bethlehem of Judea, the angelic choir chanted: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will toward men. And the holy apostle said, Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom: teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts unto the Lord. In the worship of the Triune God music finds its noblest use.

The Apostles' Creed

Here the minister shall dedicate the organ in the following manner:

Forasmuch as this organ has been provided for the use of this church, we do now solemnly dedicate it to the worship and service of Almighty God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

The Gloria in Excelsis

Then the minister shall say:

Let us pray:

Accept, we beseech Thee, O Lord, this organ which we have now dedicated to Thee. May it be Thine, and Thine alone, used only for Thy glory, and may it greatly aid in sounding forth the praises of Thy holy name. Bless us as we sing the songs of Zion; help us to sing in the spirit, making melody in our hearts unto Thee our God; and grant that whatsoever we do, in word or deed, we may do in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Make us instruments of righteousness to show forth Thy praise in all that we do or say. Help us to reverence Thy sanctuary. And grant, O Lord, that finally by Thy mercy, we may unite with the redeemed of every nation and kindred and people in ascribing thanksgiving and honor and power to Him that sitteth on the throne, and to the Lamb for ever and ever. Hear us, O Lord, in mercy, and answer us in peace; since we ask in the name of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Service shall conclude according to the order used on the Lord's Day.

A TABLE OF SCRIPTURE LESSONS

First Sunday In Advent

Gen. 1: 1-2; 3 Jer. 33: 1-13 John 1: 1-18 Rom. 1: 1-17

Second Sunday In Advent

Gen. 3: 1-21 Isa. 55: 1-13 Luke 3: 1-20 2 Tim. 3: 1-17

Third Sunday In Advent

Gen. 7: 6-24 Mal. 3: 1-18 John 3: 22-36 Rom. 10: 1-21

Fourth Sunday In Advent

Gen. 12: 1-9 Isa. 62: 1-12 Luke 1: 26-56 1 John 1: 1-10

Christmas

Ps. 25 Isa. 40: 1-11 Luke 2: 1-20 Phil. 2: 1-11

Sunday After Christmas

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New Year's Day

Ps. 90 Isa. 9: 1-7 Luke 2: 21-40 Heb. 11: 1-16

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First Sunday After Epiphany

Gen. 26: 12-55 Isa. 61: 1-11 Luke 4: 1-30 Rom. 6: 1-14

Second Sunday After Epiphany

Gen. 27: 1-29 Isa. 54: 1-17 John 2: 12-25 Heb. 2: 1-18

Third Sunday After Epiphany

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Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Gen. 32: 3-21 Isa. 1: 2-20 Matt. 8: 1-17 2 Cor. 4: 1-15

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Gen. 33: 1-20 Isa. 5: 1-17 Matt. 13: 1-23 1 Peter 1: 13-25

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Third Sunday Before Lent

Gen. 37: 1-28 Ezek. 33: 1-22 Matt. 5: 1-20 Rom. 8: 1-17

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First Sunday Before Lent

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Ash Wednesday

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Ex. 5: 1-23 Hosea 14: 1-9 Matt. 16: 13-28 Eph. 5: 1-14

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HOLY WEEK

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First Sunday After Easter

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Ex. 20: 1-21 Isa. 26: 1-19 John 21: 1-24 Col. 1: 3-23

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Fifth Sunday After Easter

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Second Sunday After Trinity

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Third Sunday After Trinity

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Fourth Sunday After Trinity

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Fifth Sunday After Trinity

1 Sam. 3: 1-21 Jer. 33: 14-26 Acts 17: 16-34 Gal. 2: 11-21

Sixth Sunday After Trinity

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Seventh Sunday After Trinity

1 Sam. 15: 1-23 Ezek. 3: 4-25 Luke 15: 11-32 1 Tim. 6: 1-16

Eighth Sunday After Trinity

1 Sam. 20: 1-23 Ezek. 8: 5-18 Matt. 19: 16-30 Phil. 3: 1-16

Ninth Sunday After Trinity

1 Sam. 24: 1-22 Ezek. 13: 1-16 Matt. 8: 1-17 1 Peter 1: 3-12

Tenth Sunday After Trinity

1 Sam. 31: 1-13 Ezek. 14: 12-23 Luke 19: 1-23 Heb. 11: 17-40

Eleventh Sunday After Trinity

2 Sam. 5: 1-12 Ezek. 34: 17-31 Mark 12: 28-44 Rom. 8: 18-30

Twelfth Sunday After Trinity

2 Sam. 6: 1-19 Ezek. 36: 22-38 John 8: 31-45 Rom. 2: 1-16

Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity

2 Sam. 12: 1-23 Ezek. 37: 1-14 Luke 12: 1-12 1 Cor. 13: 1-13

Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity

2 Sam. 15: 1-12 Ezek. 47: 1-12 Matt. 5: 21-48 Rom. 12: 9-21

Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity

2 Sam. 17: 1-23 Hosea 11: 1-11 Luke 12: 13-34 James 2: 14-26

Sixteenth Sunday After Trinity

2 Sam. 18: 9-33 Joel 3: 1-17 John 15: 1-27 2 Cor. 9: 6-15

Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

2 Sam. 24: 1-25 Amos 3: 1-15 Mark 10: 32-45 Phil. 2: 12-30

Eighteenth Sunday After Trinity

1 Ki. 2: 1-12 Amos 5: 1-15 John 9: 13-41 2 Cor. 4: 7-18

Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity

1 Ki. 6: 1-13 Amos 9: 1-15 Luke 7: 36-50 2 Peter 1: 1-11

Twentieth Sunday After Trinity

1 Ki. 8: 1-21 Oba. 1: 1-21 Mark 9: 2-13 Heb. 10: 19-39

Twenty-first Sunday After Trinity

1 Ki. 10: 1-13 Micah 4: 1-13 Luke 14: 15-35 Rom. 5: 12-21

Twenty-second Sunday After Trinity

1 Ki. 11: 1-13 Micah 6: 1-16 Luke 16: 19-31 2 Tim. 2: 1-13

Twenty-third Sunday After Trinity

2 Ki. 19: 20-37 Zech. 2: 1-13 John 11: 17-44 James 5: 7-20

Twenty-fourth Sunday After Trinity

2 Ki. 23: 1-23 Zech. 8: 1-17 John 5: 1-29 1 John 3: 1-12

Twenty-fifth Sunday After Trinity

2 Ki. 25: 1-21 Isa. 49: 1-13 Luke 19: 11-27 Rev. 4: 1-11

Twenty-sixth Sunday After Trinity

Ez. 1: 1-11 Isa. 52: 1-10 Luke 16: 19-31 Rev. 7: 9-17

Twenty-seventh Sunday After Trinity

Neh. 3: 1-20 Isa. 65: 8-24 John 17: 1-26 Rev. 22: 1-17

SUGGESTED PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

For A Church Meeting

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who by Thy Holy Spirit didst preside in the first council of Thy disciples at Jerusalem, and hast promised to be with Thy Church always, even unto the end of the world; vouchsafe, we pray Thee, unto Thy servants, here assembled, Thy gracious presence and benediction. Deliver us from all error, pride, and prejudice. Enlighten us with wisdom from above. Fill our hearts with the spirit of unity and peace; and so guide us in all our actions, that the kingdom of Satan may be broken down, Thy people comforted and established in their most holy faith, and the pure gospel truly preached and truly followed; until at length all Thy dispersed sheep shall be gathered into one fold of the great Shepherd, Jesus Christ, our Lord: to whom be glory forever. *Amen.*

For Sunday Schools

O Lord, our heavenly Father, in whose image all the children of men are made; bless, we beseech Thee, the Sunday Schools of Thy Church, that the young may be rightly instructed in Thy Word, and find Him whom to know aright is life eternal. Open the holy Scriptures, both to those who teach and to those who learn, that the difficulties of the letter may not hide the light of the Spirit. Make all the pupils ready to be taught and willing to obey, that they may find joy and peace in the way of Thy commandments. Enrich the teachers with patient faithfulness and loving wisdom, and send more laborers into this part of Thy vineyard, that the young and tender plants may be nourished and trained to bring forth fruit unto everlasting life. So let Thy truth be manifest from generation to generation, and the whole family of mankind rejoice together in Thy mercy; through Him who is the Saviour of the world, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For Young People's Societies

O God, who hast taught us in Thy Holy Word that we are to remember Thee, our Creator, in the days of our youth; bless, we humbly pray Thee, the Young People's Societies of Thy Church, that all their members being inspired by faith, hope, and love,

may earnestly strive to promote the honor due to Thy dear Son, the spread of His Church, and the gathering of wanderers into the fold. Give them grace to fulfil in their lives what they profess with their lips. Deliver them from false doctrine and slackness of living, and grant that, serving Thee with pure hearts fervently, they may show forth the praises of Him who hath called them out of darkness into His marvellous light. Help us all, we beseech Thee, O God, to bear one another's burdens, and to live not for ourselves, but for others, as members of one family in Christ; wash us from our sins in His precious blood; make us holy by the indwelling of His Holy Spirit; and bring us all at last to the joy of Thy heavenly kingdom; through Him who died that we might live, Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For the Catechumens

Most gracious God, our heavenly Father, who dost, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord, accept the intercession of Thy people; remember, we beseech Thee, the Catechumens of this congregation and throughout Thy whole Church. By Thy Holy Spirit enlighten and instruct them in the knowledge of Thee and divine things; open their hearts to the influence of Thy holy Word, that they may meditate on Thy law day and night; strengthen and confirm them in religion; unite them more closely with Thyself and Thy flock; cleanse them from all pollution of flesh and spirit, and let the indwelling of Thy grace be evermore their strength and safety. Prepare them for full communion with Thy Church; help them to love, honor, and obey Thee in all things; and grant them an abundant entrance into Thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For Community Missions

O God, who dost govern all things in heaven and on earth; mercifully hear our prayers, and grant to this community all things needful for its spiritual welfare. Bless, we beseech Thee, our homes, our churches, our schools, and our charities, that the Spirit of Christ may animate them. Visit in mercy all who are living in sin; and as Thou hast called us to witness for Thee in whatsoever station Thou hast seen fit to place us, use each one of us in the saving of precious souls. Remove all hindrances to the advancement of Thy truth, and help us to bring all within the fold of Thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For Home Missions

O Lord, our heavenly Father, whose tender mercies are over all Thy works; we call upon Thee in behalf of our beloved nation, which Thou hast established in liberty, equality, and righteousness, humbly beseeching Thee to hasten the day when all our actions shall be governed by the gospel of Thy dear Son.

Let Thy blessing, we pray Thee, rest upon all missionary agencies throughout the land. Bless those to whom has been committed their oversight; grant them wisdom and grace from on high; and give strength and courage and inspiration to all those who are faithfully serving as missionaries of the cross, helping them to interpret Christ to all the people and in all the relationships of life, that religion may give stability to our time, and our land abide in righteousness and peace.

So help us, our heavenly Father, to bring this nation into Thy kingdom, and make us a blessing to all the nations of the earth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For Foreign Missions

O God, whose dearly beloved Son, after His resurrection from the dead, did send His Apostles into all the world to preach the Gospel to every creature; hear, we beseech Thee, the prayers of Thy people, and look down in Thy compassion upon the multitudes that are as sheep, having no shepherd, and upon the fields now white unto the harvest. Bless those Thy servants, who, after the example of Thy first missionaries, have gone far hence to the Gentiles, and prosper Thou their work of faith and labor of love. Bless especially the Board of Foreign Missions of our own Church, its officers, and all our missionaries. Send forth more laborers into Thy harvest, to gather fruit unto life eternal. And grant us grace and power to be fellow-workers with them by our prayers and offerings, that we may also rejoice with them in Thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For Evangelistic Work

Most gracious God, our heavenly Father, who hast so loved the world as to give Thine only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life; increase, we beseech Thee, the faith and zeal of Thy people, that they more earnestly desire, and more diligently seek, the salva-

tion of their fellowmen, through the message of Thy love in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Send forth a mighty call unto Thy servants to preach Thy Word; multiply the number of those who labor in the Gospel; and so bless the witness of all believers, that multitudes may be brought from the kingdom of evil into the kingdom of Thy dear Son. Make all of us to see that souls are perishing for the lack of the knowledge of Jesus Christ and Him crucified; and since Thou hast intrusted to us the knowledge of Thy truth and the gifts of Thy bounty, help us to use them as good stewards, so that Thy Word may be proclaimed and Thy kingdom enlarged, to the glory of Thy name and the salvation of men; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For the Home

O merciful God, the Father of all mankind, who settest the solitary in families; we commend to Thy care the homes in which Thy people dwell. Put far from them, we beseech Thee, every root of bitterness, the desire for vainglory, and the pride of life. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness. Knit together in constant affection those whom Thou makest to dwell therein; turn the hearts of the parents to the children, and the hearts of the children to the parents, that being kindly affectioned one toward another with brotherly love, they may dwell together as heirs of the promises of God. Let the influence of our home life be for God, and love, and purity; make every home a shelter from care and sin, and a place where Thy Spirit rules; and cause all Christian graces to flourish in them; for the sake of Him who hath sanctified all the relationships of life; our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For Our Schools

O God, the Giver of all spiritual grace and the Author of everlasting life, whose dearly beloved Son came into the world to destroy the works of darkness, and make us the children of light; illuminate our minds, we beseech Thee, with the full and abiding knowledge of Thy Word, that being enlightened with wisdom from above, we may ever prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy goodness, and ready to do Thy will.

Bestow Thy favor upon all efforts to train the young in intelligence, virtue, and piety. Bless all schools, and colleges and seminaries of sound learning and Christian education, and make

them instruments of great good to the world. Endue the officers and teachers with a true sense of their stewardship, and enlarge the hearts of the people to a loyal support of those institutions of learning where the precepts of the Gospel are honored as the supreme wisdom.

Enlighten the minds, and purify the hearts of the students; so that they may go forth a noble host, made ready and consecrated for large and fruitful work. Bless everywhere those who are striving for a Christian education amid the hindrances of poverty and friendlessness, and raise up friends, and strengthen wise agencies, to prosper their endeavors. Pour out Thy Spirit from on high, and sanctify all minds and hearts for Thine acceptable service here and Thy blessed kingdom hereafter; all which we ask in the name of Him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For the Church

O Lord, who dost love the Church and give Thyself for it; sanctify and cleanse it by Thy Word. Remove all needless divisions, and take away the spirit of rivalry and jealousy. Rebuke all our uncharitable judgments of one another, and unite us all in Thy holy work. Bless all who love the Lord Jesus, by whatever name they are called, and guide them into closer fellowship with Thee.

O Thou tender Shepherd of our souls, grant Thy Spirit, we beseech Thee, to those who rule in Thy Church. Give them a sense of their responsibility to Thee, that they may be faithful stewards of Thy manifold grace. Give them an unwavering faith, bestow upon them the spirit of prayer, and in their lives may they commend the Lord Jesus Christ. Aid them with Thy counsel as they seek to teach the ignorant, and to minister to the sick and sorrowing. May they know the blessedness of those who are fellow-workers with God.

O God, who didst send Thy blessed Son to preach peace to them that are far off and to them that are nigh; grant that all men everywhere may seek after Thee and find Thee. Bring the nations into Thy fold, and add the heathen to Thine inheritance. And hasten, O Lord, the fulfilment of Thy promise to pour out Thy Spirit upon all flesh; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. *Amen.*

For Our Country

O God, who hast taught us in Thy holy Word that the nations that will not serve Thee shall perish; we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee for life and all its blessings, and our obligations to serve and glorify Thee in our bodies and spirits which are Thine.

We praise Thy holy Name for the manifold blessings of Thy providence and grace; for our birth and education under Christian influences; for the civil and religious liberty we enjoy; for the ministrations of the Church; for the comfort of our homes; and for all the tender relationships of life: and while we enjoy these many tokens of Thy favor, we beseech Thee to pardon our many sins and failures, and grant that we may show our thankfulness by a sincere obedience to Thy holy laws, and always be mindful of Thy presence as a holy safeguard against wrong.

Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure living. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues; and so guide, govern, and direct us in all our ways that there may be justice at home and peace among all the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, temper our self-confidence with thankfulness, and in the time of trouble suffer not our trust in Thee to fail; since we ask in the name of Thy dear Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For the Kingdom of God

O Thou King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, our Saviour; hasten, we beseech Thee, the coming of Thy kingdom upon earth, and draw the whole world of mankind into willing obedience to Thy blessed reign. Overcome all the enemies of Christ, and bring low every power that is exalted against Him. Cast out all the evil things which cause wars and dissensions among us, and let Thy Spirit rule the hearts of men in righteousness and love. Restore the desolations of former days; rejoice the wilderness with beauty; and make glad the city with Thy law. Establish every work that is founded on truth and equity, and fulfil all the good hopes and desires of Thy people. Manifest Thy will, Almighty Father, in the brotherhood of man, and bring in the day of universal peace; for the sake of Him whose king-

dom is our heart's desire, and whose will for men is love; our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For Christian Education

O God, whose inspiration giveth man understanding, we beseech Thee to bless all our schools of learning, that in them the rising generation may be trained in the fear and love of God, and fitted for His service. May all instructors be disciples of Thy wisdom, and obedient to Him who is the wise Teacher of us all. Make them to be seekers after truth, that their example may lead many to love what is noble, and to live for the honor of Thy Name. And hasten the time, we beseech Thee, O merciful God, when all shall know Thee, from the least to the greatest, and when the whole earth shall be filled with Thy glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For Industrial Justice

Almighty God, at whose word man goeth forth into his work and to his labor until the evening; be merciful to all whose duties are difficult and burdensome, and comfort them in their toil. Shield from bodily accident and harm the workmen at their work. Protect the efforts of sober and honest industry, and cause the workmen to be diligent and honest in their appointed tasks. Incline the hearts of employers and of those whom they employ to mutual forbearance, fairness, and good will. Give the spirit of wisdom and justice to all in places of authority. Care for all aged persons and all little children, the sick and afflicted, and those who travel by land or by sea. Remember all who by reason of weakness are overtasked, or because of poverty are forgotten, and let not their sufferings lead them to doubt Thy tender care or Thy unceasing love. Give ear unto our prayer, O merciful and gracious Father, for the love of Thine only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For National Righteousness

O Lord, who canst bring forth spiritual blessings out of all our conditions; teach us both how to abound and how to be in want. Take from us both the love of money and the fear of poverty. Save us alike from favoring the rich and despising the poor, and give us grace to use all our wealth and every talent we possess as Thy stewards, and as those who must render an account unto Thee.

O God, who hast taught us that righteousness exalteth a nation, and that sin is a reproach to any people; grant that our political life may be pure. Calm the angry strife of men; repress the bitterness of party spirit, and make us, amid all our differences, lovers of our country, and fellow-workers for its highest welfare.

O Lord, who art our Judge, our Lawgiver, and our King; we beseech Thee to elevate and enrich our social life. Grant that we may honor only that which is honorable, and resist every debasing influence. God save the people from intemperance and vice, from vanity and worldliness, from moral blindness and indifference. When the enemy cometh in like a flood, be Thou, O Lord, our rock of defense. Be pleased to multiply the number of brave, earnest, self-sacrificing followers of Christ, and grant that men everywhere may encourage one another in pursuing that which is good; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For Social Service

Almighty God, who art the Father of all mankind; cleanse and defend Thy Church, we beseech Thee, and write Thou the law of justice upon the hearts and consciences of Thy people. Arouse within us a brotherly concern for all who are poor, or oppressed, or afflicted, teaching us to account them our brethren, and to pity and care for them. Use us for the relief of those who suffer under the wrongs and enmities of their fellow-men. Make us sensible of our union with one another as Thy children, that we may strive to order all our relations according to Thy will. And we beseech Thee to heal the divisions in the great household of Thy sons and daughters, and to temper their strivings with the spirit of equity, fairness, peace, and good will, and so fill the world with the light of Thy truth and the glory of Thy kingdom; for the sake of Him who laid down His life for us, Thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For International Peace

O God, who art the Hope of all the ends of the earth; we beseech Thee to remember the whole creation for good. Look with compassion upon the world that lieth in wickedness. Fulfil Thy purpose of love towards all mankind, for whom Thou gavest Thine only-begotten Son. Let Thy way be known upon earth, Thy saving health among all nations. Give peace in our time, O Thou blessed Prince of Peace, and grant that the peoples may no longer use their strength to work desolation, but work together

for the common good of all. Hasten the time, O merciful God, when all peoples shall acknowledge Thee as King, and seek in peace to honor and obey Thee; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For the Ministry

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, whose dearly beloved Son didst call men to follow Him in the work of the ministry; assist us with Thy grace, we beseech Thee, in all our work for others, that it may be profitable to our own souls and tend to the greater glory of Thy name. Raise up ministers of the Gospel among us for the work of the Church in these days of rich opportunity for the kingdom. May the choicest of our young men be willing to give themselves to the ministry of Jesus. May we lead our own children to think seriously of the work of the ministry as their life's calling, and may we count it an honor to have them minister at Thine altar. Help us each one, O Lord, to fulfil our ministry for Thee, whatever be our calling, and may we be ever ready to labor for the hastening of Thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For Those Engaged in Humane Service

O God, who hast given unto Thy servants diversities of gifts by the same Spirit, and hast taught us by Thy holy apostle that all our doings without charity are nothing worth; be pleased to bless and prosper all who love and serve their fellow-men with a pure heart fervently: remembering the poor, healing the sick, comforting the sorrowful, teaching the ignorant, and lifting up the afflicted. Let their prayers and alms come up for a memorial before Thee, and reward them plentifully with Thy favor; for the love of Thine only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For All Toilers

O Lord, our heavenly Father, who givest to every man his work; hear us also, we humbly pray Thee, for all toilers in the various walks of life, that they may not be eye-servants as men-pleasers, but perform their duties as unto the Lord. Having gifts that differ, may they all labor with one mind for one end, and may each one, in the calling wherein he is called, therein abide with God. Grant that every man may know himself to be Thy servant, and do with his might whatsoever his hand findeth to do; for the sake of Him who came among us as one that serveth, Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

SELECTION OF SCRIPTURE FOR READING DURING THE OFFERING

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take My offering.

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord Thy God which He hath given thee.

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat; and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth.

Honor the Lord with Thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all Thine increase:

Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Whosoever will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for My sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

I have shewed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him.

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly in all things to enjoy: That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his heart of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

To do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

A TABLE OF DAILY SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Here A Table Of Daily Scripture Lessons follows. This consists of two series, the one from the Old Testament and the other from the New Testament. Each series covers all the days of the year.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY

Here Prayers For the Family follow. In this collection there are prayers for morning and evening worship for all the days of the week. These prayers are substantially the same as those in the Order of Worship.

A BRIEF LITANY

Here A Brief Litany, for chapel, family, or individual use, follows.